

Quarter Century Wireless Association  
PO Box 3247  
Framingham, MA 01705-3247



# QCWA Journal

Quarter Century Wireless Association - Founded in 1947

[www.qcwa.org](http://www.qcwa.org) • Published Quarterly • \$6.25 • Winter 2010 • Vol. 59, No. 4

## Happy Holidays!



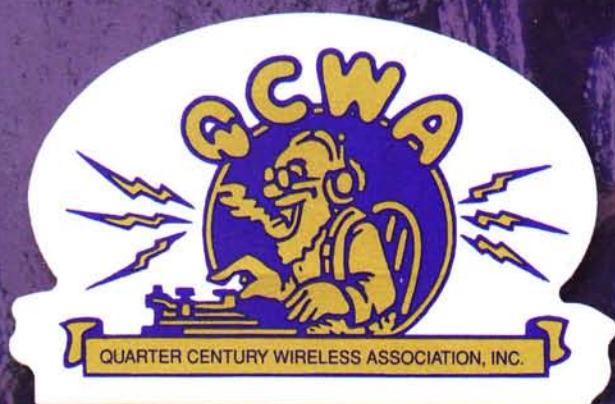
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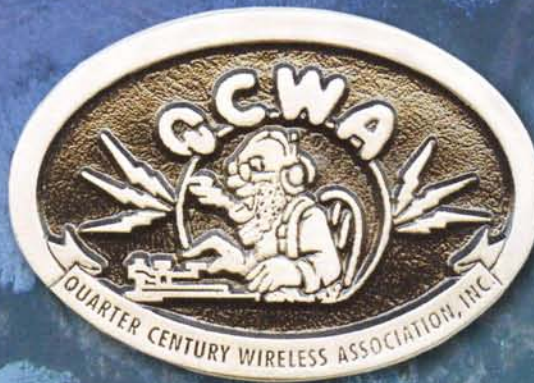
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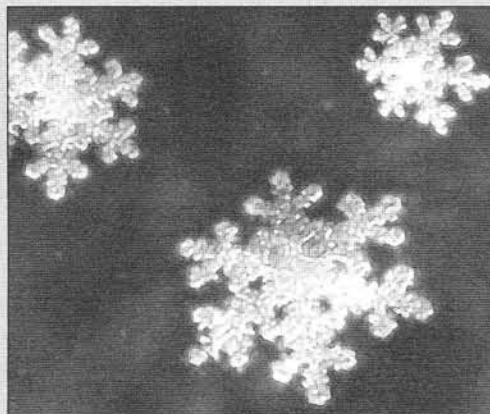
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QCWA would like to wish the members a warm and happy holiday season and best wishes for a wonderful 2011. Happy New Year!

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Clarence Seid, W2KW (SK) 1969 - 1971

Barry Goldwater, K7UGA (SK) 1972 - 1973

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Harry S. Gartsman, W6ATC 1978 - 1981

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Leland Smith, W5KL (SK) 1986 - 1989

Harry Dannals, W2HD 1989 - 1994

Lew McCoy, W1ICP (SK) 1994 - 1996

John Kelleher, W4ZC (SK) 1996 - 1998

Gary R. Harrison, K0BC 1998 - 2002

Croft Taylor, VE3CT 2002 - 2004

John B. Johnston, W3BE 2004 - 2008

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Ethel Smith, K4LMB (SK) 1974 - 1976

Ted Heithecker, W5EJ (SK) 1976 - 1991

Jim Walsh, W7LVN (SK) 1991 - 2003

## The QCWA Journal

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*The JOURNAL is available free to blind paid-up members on audio cassette tape. For more information, contact Vic Culver, W4VIC, 1020 Lyndhurst, Virginia Beach, VA 23464.*





## **WINTER 2010**

It's official, I'm a lame duck! The 2010-2012 Board of Directors is in place and we welcome new directors Bob Smith, KK3P and Skip Swenson, WB6VVA. I'm looking forward to working with both of these gentlemen and the returning officers and board members.

The 2011 Convention is in Warwick, RI, the weekend after Labor Day. It kicks off with the Board of Directors meeting on Thursday, the 8th, and concludes with an ARRL HQ Tour on Monday, the 12th. Get all the details and a registration form at the center of this issue.

The 2012 Convention is scheduled for Reno, NV. We are looking for a chapter or chapters to step up and apply to host our convention in 2013. You should start planning very soon. It takes longer than you think and time really does fly!

Does your chapter host a table at your local Hamfest? If not, why not? It provides a meeting place for chapter members to come and rest, it provides a chance to get reacquainted with old friends, it provides a chance to add members to QCWA and to your local chapter. This is something we all need to be doing. Don't tell me you're shy, don't tell me you've never done it before. All of us do things we've never done before. So, rent a table, contact Chuck at HQ for a Hamfest package and enjoy. You'll be surprised how much fun it can be.

You may have noticed the disappearance of cassette tapes from the shelves of your local stores. No one makes them anymore. This has become a problem for the QCWA Journal on Tape program. We have sent a letter to our visually impaired members asking for their assistance in selecting a new medium so we can continue this program. Please check with your visually impaired members and ensure they are receiving the Journal in audio format. If not, drop me an email with their name, call, QCWA number and email address so we get them added to the mailing list.

QCWA in the 21st Century! It is now possible to fill out your membership form on-line and e-mail it to our General Manager. This is available for New or Renewal Memberships for the US, Canadian and other foreign applications. The methods of payment remain the same; mail in a check or phone or fax your credit card information to HQ. More information and the on-line forms are available at: <http://www.qcwa.org/how-to-join.php>

It's a strange situation where one of the first duties to be performed is to appoint people to find your replacement! I have made appointments to the Nominating Committee for the 2012 election and they have been approved by your Board of Directors. More information will be coming in future issues of the Journal and on the QCWA web site.

**73 de NØUF op Bob Roske tu ..**  
**QCWA President**

**CORRECTION:** In the last issue of the Journal we ran an article on Lighthouse Larry. In it we had incorrectly printed an email address for Brian R. Page. His correct email address is: [brian@gladlylearn.com](mailto:brian@gladlylearn.com). We would also like to direct you to a link to the web page holding all the scanned issues of that magazine. The link is: <http://n4trb.com/AmateurRadio/HamDocs.htm>



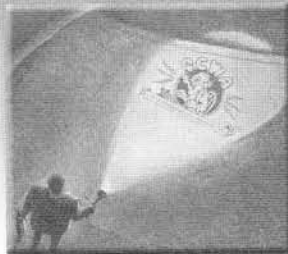
## The Quarter Century Wireless Association

**The Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc.** was founded December 5, 1947, as a non-commercial association of radio amateurs organized for the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communication and experimentation, for the establishment and advancement of the radio art and of the public welfare.

QCWA is an incorporated association without capital stock chartered under the laws of the State of New York, and is a tax exempt 501(C)3 organization under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Its affairs are governed by a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Board of Directors, whose voting members are elected every two years by the general membership.

In order to qualify for membership in QCWA one must have demonstrable proof of having been first licensed as an Amateur Radio operator at least 25 years prior to application for membership and must be currently licensed. Membership inquiries and general correspondence should be addressed to the business office at P.O. Box 3247, Framingham, MA 01705-3247 U.S.A.  
VP: 508-405-1930  
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## Publicity, Public Relations and the Lost Member Column

by Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO



Last quarter's column generated several email responses across a cornucopia of topics with a few usable suggestions and some direction for a future article. I truly appreciate hearing from you. And as always, I will comment back on your comments.

A little more than a year ago, your QCWA Board of Directors attempted to contact the secretaries of all our active chapters – chapters that had returned their annual report to headquarters the previous January; and asked them five questions: **1)** What were the most successful programs that your chapter has put on? **2)** Have you had success in getting new members? **3)** if so, did you do anything special to attract them? **4)** Have you been successful in getting new members that are younger? **5)** Do you have meetings that "working people" can attend? I have the results from about a third of our directors and will share the highlights from this survey as soon as the rest of the survey results are given to me.

However, the information gathered reflects, I believe, only on a portion of our active chapters and many times only the views of the person interviewed. I would like to expand the opportunity to include all who read the Journal. And I would like to change the questions to include: **1)** What in your opinion should QCWA do to improve what we offer our membership? **2)** Why, also in your opinion, do so few of our members participate in our bi-annual QSO Party? **3)** What might we do to improve this situation? **4)** What is your overall opinion of our QCWA Journal? **5)** What changes would you like to see in it, if any? An email or telephone call to the contact information below would be most appreciated. If you would rather reach me by regular mail service, send it to:

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO  
5400 6 Mile Rd, Racine, WI 53402

QCWA is changing the method of recording the Journal for our visually impaired members. It seems that the cassette tape is going the way of the 8-track tape; and at this writing the vehicle to deliver the future audio Journal is still under consideration. This audio medium content of the Journal has been offered, on an as-needed basis to our membership for the past several decades, thanks to Blanche Randles, W4GXZ, who began the program. If you know of a member that would benefit from this audio reading please contact Vic Culver, W4VIC, by email at vic.w4vic@verizon.com; or direct mail to 1020 Lyndhurst Place, Virginia Beach, VA 23464.

As always, I welcome your suggestions, comments and criticism. I may be reached by email at wa9jmo@wi.net; and/or by telephone at 262-639-7327.

**Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO**



# GENERAL MANAGER'S Report

Chuck Walbridge, K1IGD



## WINTER 2010

**ELECTION 2012** — Yes, it's that time again! The Board has approved the Nominating Committee for the next election. The 2012 Nominating Committee members are:

Chairman – Earl Smith, VE6NM  
Member – Jeff Beals, WA4AW  
Member – Larry Staples, W0AIB

Members, in good standing, who are interested in running for any QCWA Office, contact any member of the Committee and make your interest known. The Committee reports their results to the General Manager by July 15th 2011.

**DAYTON 2011** — Thinking ahead, the Dayton Hamvention will be the weekend of 20-22 May 2011. A QCWA general meeting will be held during the Hamvention, time and location to be determined. Further details will be published in the spring Journal and placed on the QCWA web page.

A reminder that the Holiday Inn in Englewood, OH will have a special rate for QCWA members at next year's Dayton Hamvention. Identify yourself as a QCWA member for that rate. A shuttle bus will be available between the hotel and the arena. Chapter 9 will host the Friday evening QCWA Banquet. Details will be posted in the spring issue and the QCWA email reflector.

**QCWA SCHOLARSHIPS** — An early reminder that applications for QCWA scholarships must be submitted to The Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) by April 15th. Applications can be found at their web page: <http://www.farweb.org/>. This service of processing applications is provided to QCWA at no cost. Only income in the Scholarship account is distributed in awards.

**CHAPTER WEB PAGES** — Bob Roske, changing from his "President's hat" to his "Web Master hat", has been posting links on the QCWA web page to various chapter web pages. This allows those chapters to post various activities, which may be of interest to local hams or even members who might be traveling through the area. While you might not have anyone in your chapter who has the computer programs or skills to prepare a web page, Bob can help by listing the important contact information for your chapter on a generic web page. Send him an email with the info desired. Earlier this year, the QCWA web page was moved to a new host with the help of Howard Cunningham, WD5DBC. Thanks, Howard, for your efforts on this move.

**QSL CARDS** — We were informed after the Fall Journal was prepared that the vendor being used to print the QCWA QSL cards is no longer interested in providing that service. It was really a sideline to their printing business and they prefer to place their efforts in expanding the primary business.

I have contacted a number of QSL card printers and have been working with them to design a replacement card. As soon as a final vendor is selected, it will be announced in the Journal, posted on the web page and a notice posted on the QCWA Email reflector. Thanks for your patience with your orders that had to be returned.

**AUDIO VERSION OF THE JOURNAL** — Technology has finally caught up with our audio version of the Journal! The audio cassettes previously provided to our members are no longer available. We will continue to provide the service but the choices will be limited to Internet download from our web server or HandiHams or an audio CD. A mailing was sent to our blind members with a card to return stating their choice. Twenty-four were mailed but only thirteen were returned. Please check with any of your Chapter members who are blind and confirm their choice for the audio file. Send any questions/comments to the Program Coordinator, Vic Culver, W4VIC: [vic.w4vic@verizon.net](mailto:vic.w4vic@verizon.net), or to me at Headquarters, [qcwagm@rcn.com](mailto:qcwagm@rcn.com).

**PAYPAL ACCOUNT** — At the Dayton Board meeting of 2010, a decision was made to have a QCWA PayPal account established for use by new and existing members for dues and purchase of member supplies. This was mentioned in my column in the fall issue of the Journal. Recent changes in Federal banking laws would impose charges that would not have made this venture economically viable to QCWA. All efforts in this area have been terminated. The existing means for payments to QCWA are still in place and can still be used: checks and credit cards at hamfests and over the phone. Bob Roske has made applications

*(continued next page)*



for new members available on the web for completing and mailing to the office with your payment. An order form for member supplies is also available.

**KUDOS!** — Personally, I wish to thank all those members who diligently prepare the Chapter Reports published every quarter. You are doing a fine job spreading the news and sharing chapter activities!

Jan and I send greetings and best wishes to everyone as we celebrate the upcoming holiday season!

73 Chuck & Jan



**CROFT TAYLOR, VE3CT – SK:** Just before we went to press, we were notified that Croft Taylor, VE3CT, while en route to his winter home in Nokomis, FL, suffered a heart attack in Jacksonville, FL, and passed away on November 17th.

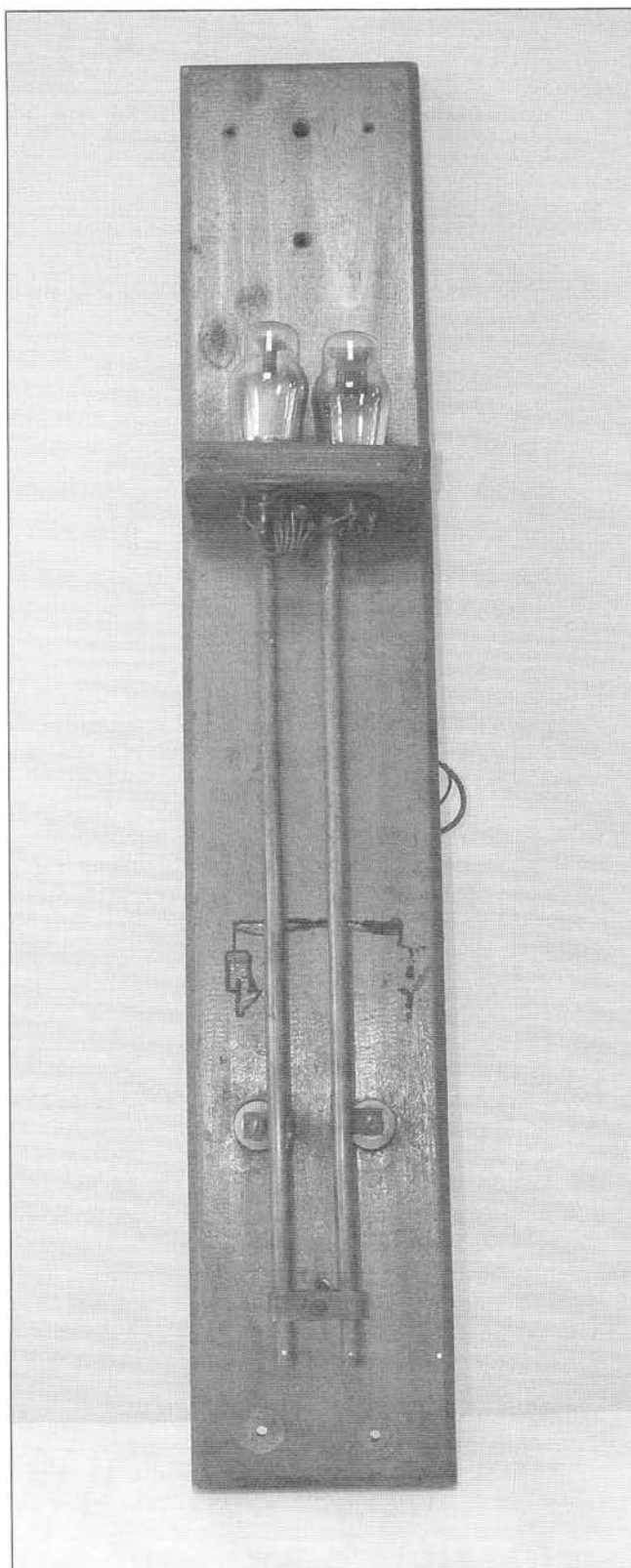
Croft had served QCWA in many positions; as President in 2002-2003; Vice President, 1998-2001 and Director from 1992-1997. Croft served as Chairman on various committees during his terms.

Earlier this year, the Board of Trustees of the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame appointed Croft to the Radio Amateurs of Canada Hall of Fame for 2009. At the May 2010 meeting of the QCWA board, Croft was awarded the 2009 QCWA Hall of Fame award for his years of outstanding service to QCWA.

He was first licensed in 1950 and held several calls in the VE2 and VE3 call areas. While in the University, Croft joined COTC and pursued a military career in the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, retiring as a Lt. Colonel. Afterward he joined Bell System in Canada and directed a team of senior engineers in a long-term planning of Canada's major telecommunications networks, and their integration with similar USA networks. At the same time he chaired the Carrier Working Group whose mandate was to develop fail safe high-density networks for the military.

Croft's major contribution to the Amateur Community was the development of a program with The Bell System to distribute surplus Bell teletype and data equipment to Amateurs in North America. He personally handled about 5000 tons of such equipment during its distribution. He is a QCWA Life member and a member of several Chapters in Canada and in the USA.

His outstanding and generous support to anyone working with him was always greatly appreciated. QCWA members and friends will miss him. Condolences are extended to the Taylor family from all of us at QCWA. Rest in Peace, Croft.



*Go back in your memory and think about the early days of VHF operation. Any guesses? This is part of the Vintage Radio and Communications Museum of Connecticut in Windsor, CT.*



# My Radio Life

by **Bill Tynan, W3XO**

THIS ORIGINALLY APPEARED IN "STATIC", THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE KERRVILLE, TEXAS, HILL COUNTRY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION. IT IS ONE OF A SERIES OF ACCOUNTS RELATING HOW ITS MEMBERS BECAME INTERESTED IN HAM RADIO AND THEIR VARIOUS EXPERIENCES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE HOBBY.

**H**ere is my story. I hope it doesn't bore you too much. It's quite long, because I've been around for quite a while.

I remember first being entranced by radio at age three. Possibly what sparked my interest, even at that young age, was because my Dad, in 1929, bought a radio. He had waited until super-heterodynes became available and cheaper. The thing was in a box which my parents mounted up in the shelves above a desk. The speaker was separate and placed in a corner behind a chair.

I can remember being fascinated by Dad turning the dial up in the desk and the sound changing down behind the chair. I specifically recall lying on the floor, with my head practically in the speaker, listening to; "If I had the wings of an angel, over these prison walls I would fly..."

A few years later, my Dad bought a Philco console model with the speaker built in. I'm glad this wasn't our first radio. I might never have become interested in the function of this exciting new medium. I do remember being disappointed, however, that the new set did not have short wave. I had heard about this new strange kind of radio on which one could receive broadcasts from countries all over the world. But Dad opted for the less expensive 1933 model rather than the 1934 offering which boasted the short wave band. "People buy these sets and only listen to short wave for a few weeks before becoming tired of it," I remember hearing him say in response to my pleading for a radio that would allow me to listen to the world.

But my interest in radio persisted. I remember one day, lying on the front lawn when I was about six, looking up at the sky and

imagining seeing radio waves being intercepted by the wire antenna strung across the roof of our house.

Intent on getting a short wave set, I began saving my allowance and picking up what money I could as well as getting a commitment of financial aid from my folks. So, in 1937 before we moved from St. Paul, Minnesota to Washington, DC, I managed to buy a Philco mantel model radio. It had the regular broadcast band plus TWO short wave segments. One of these brought in police calls, which I found fascinating. The other band spanned from about 6 megacycles to around 18 megacycles. I started listening to hams on 20 meters and was hooked by the thought of becoming one. I listened to the BBC and was entranced by the sound of Big Ben. I heard the ranting of Adolf Hitler on the German radio. This radio stuff was all very interesting to me.

In the 5th grade, we had library day. We would walk from the school to the local Saint Anthony Park Library about a block away. Most of my classmates looked for the kinds of books ten-year-olds should be interested in, but not me. I had discovered the Radio Amateur's Handbook, then a relatively small publication put out by some outfit in Connecticut called the American Radio Relay League. I would immediately go to the shelf where that intriguing book was located, take it down and peruse the pictures and drawings contained within the some 200 pages. I couldn't understand the circles and jagged lines, but I was fascinated by them nevertheless.

Just before leaving St. Paul, while in the Cub Scouts, I met my Den Leader's younger brother. I remember his name was Walter Fish. He was about 18 and studying to become a ham. I remember visiting him one evening and seeing the 160 meter phone transmitter he had just completed. It was built on a piece of wood, about 1-1/2 by 2 feet and had many glowing tubes. He had it hooked up to a light bulb as a dummy load and had screwed up the trimmers on a broadcast set so it could receive 160 meters. I recall being transfixed by him turning the transmit-

ter on and seeing the light bulb glow brightly. Then, when he talked into the microphone, you could hear him come out of the speaker and the bulb would get brighter with each word he spoke.

I was hooked. But then we moved.

About 1939, I was no longer satisfied with nothing more than a broadcast set with a short wave band. I wanted a real communications receiver. I had begun to buy radio magazines and had seen ads for wonderful receivers such as the Halicrafters S-19R, Sky Buddy and S-20R, Sky Champion. Even better, were sets such as the SX-17 and SX-25. But these were pricey for a twelve-year-old and I settled for an AC/DC Echophone EC-1 for \$19.95. It had all of the short wave bands and even tuned up as far as 30 megacycles. In addition to 20 meters, I could listen to 160 meters, 75 meters and 10 meters. There was no amateur band at 15 meters in those days. There was another strange place on the dial around 7 megacycles where all one could hear was a jumble of noise. I didn't find out until later that this was

the 40 meter band which was then entirely CW.

World War II began December 7, 1941 and Hams were immediately banned from the air. I remember listening to W1AW which was given special permission to operate for about a week following the outbreak of war to inform everyone that all amateur operation was suspended until further notice.

Fearing that my little AC/DC EC-1 might not last the War, I set my sights on a Sky Buddy. By mowing lawns and delivering newspapers, I managed to collect enough money to go down to Sun Radio on F Street in Washington and plunk down the \$33.95 necessary to purchase the more robust looking receiver. The price of the Sky Buddy had already increased from the \$29.95 which had prevailed for several years previously.

With the war on and no chance of operating on the ham bands, I slowed in my attempts to get my ticket. I think it's called "incentive licensing". I had no incentive to get a license, if I couldn't use it. But, I soon heard about something called the War Emergency

## QCWA Golf Shirt with Embroidered Logo

*Cotton/Polyester Made By Jerzee*

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The shirt has an embroidered QCWA logo and pocket on the left side. Your name and call can be added to the right side. The shirt fabric is 50/50 cotton/polyester blend and is made by Jerzee. **The price includes prepaid delivery to your door!**

### SIZE CONVERSIONS:

34 - 36 = Small  
38 - 40 = Medium  
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Small, Medium, Large, Xtra Large	\$28.00
XX Large	\$30.00
XXX Large	\$32.00
XXXX Large (special order)	\$34.00
Name and call, per shirt	\$7.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Golf Shirt Size (please circle proper size)

Small / Medium / Large / Xtra Large	\$28.00
XX Large	\$30.00
XXX Large	\$32.00
XXXX Large (available on special order)	\$34.00

Number of Shirts

To include your name and Call (per shirt)	\$7.00
--	--------

Total Amount	_____
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Radio Service (WERS). It would provide me my chance to get on the air, sort of.

WERS, which was part of Civilian Defense, was mainly staffed by hams, but one did not need an amateur license to participate. One could be a part of WERS with as little as a Restricted Radiotelephone License. This only required answering a few legal questions, no technical ones. I immediately boned up on these and obtained the license and signed up with the Montgomery County, Maryland WERS organization which had been issued the call letters, WMDD.

WERS did not give one unrestricted use of amateur frequencies. It employed the old 2-1/2 meter band from 112 to 116 megacycles. Operation was limited to two drill periods per week, each just 2 hours in length. Operation could also take place during air raid drills. The closest station to me was at the Bethesda Station of the Montgomery County Police, about a mile and a half from my house.

But, WERS gave me a chance to meet some real licensed hams and I began to learn a lot more, especially learn how little I know. I've been learning that ever since.

I also joined the Washington Radio Club and began taking the bus down to Capital Radio Engineering Institute at 16th Street and Park Road where the Club held its meetings. Through the Washington Radio Club, I met many interesting and knowledgeable people. I learned more about radio and the traditions of Amateur Radio, especially the key role the ARRL played in its founding and continued existence. One particular Elmer was Gill Dawkins, W3EJB.

During the War, while in high school, we had what was known as the Victory Corps. Because of my supposed knowledge of radio, I was tapped to teach a radio communications course as part of the Bethesda Chevy Chase High School's Victory Corps. I suggested to my students that a good way of demonstrating completion of the course, was for everyone, including me, to obtain an amateur license. Unfortunately, my parents moved to Silver Spring half way through the semester and Montgomery Blair High School, where I had to go, did not have a radio course in its Victory Corps. I was given the choice of marching around the athletic field with a wooden gun over my shoulder or learning Japanese. Though I chose the Japanese course, I didn't learn much. I always thought the instructor, who was a fellow student, was about two lessons ahead of us - as I had been when I was teaching radio over at BCC.

During the 1940s, reading books and magazines, including QST, I became very intrigued by the higher frequency bands as well as by a new form of broadcasting which had begun operation in

**During the War, while in high school, we had what was known as the Victory Corps. Because of my supposed knowledge of radio, I was tapped to teach a radio communications course...**

early 1941 - frequency modulation. In those days FM broadcasting occupied the band from 42 to 50 megacycles. There was an experimental FM station operating in Washington on 43.2 Mcs with the call letters, W3XO!

I first tried to listen to W3XO on my Sky Buddy which tuned to somewhere around 45 megacycles. Of course, on a receiver designed for AM with an IF about 10 Kilocycles wide, the 75 kilocycle deviation FM sounded awful. But, I was listening to UHF, which VHF was called then; and I was listening to this new kind of radio station. In about 1943, my folks bought a used Stromberg Carlson radio phonograph console that included the 42 to 50 Mcs FM band. I was elated. I would finally be able to hear W3XO properly. But, I was wrong. The set had the average sensitivity for FM radios of the day, approximately 10 microvolts for 20 dB quieting. W3XO was located in about the worst place in DC for a UHF (VHF) broadcasting station, near Wisconsin Avenue and M Street in Georgetown - only a couple of blocks from the Potomac River. But occasionally, during the summer months, I was able to hear clear, although fading, FM signals from places like Chicago. I remember particularly the Zenith station, W51C on 45.1 Mcs. I had discovered Sporadic E propagation and became even more hooked on the higher frequency bands.

But I had to have something better than that Stromberg Carlson. I had read that General Electric had an FM tuner called the JFM-90, which boasted a sensitivity of 4 microvolts for 20 dB quieting. I had to have one. For my sixteenth birthday, my father brought a JFM-90 back from New York City. He had gone to considerable trouble to get it, having to travel down to Cortland Street which was then "radio row". To get there and back to his hotel, he had to use the New York subway, a conveyance he intensely disliked. But, I had my JFM-90 and clear reception from W3XO.

One man I met in those days was Mel Wilson, W1DEI, who would

become a great friend years later. Mel was interested in the mechanism which caused Sporadic E and had postulated that weather conditions had something to do with it. He was working at the Naval Research Lab in Southeast Washington and had an apartment near there. I remember visiting his apartment and seeing a stack of weather maps about three feet high on the floor. He also had several racks containing FM receivers attached to Esterline Angus chart recorders. The FM receivers were tuned to the frequencies of various FM stations in places like Chicago, Cleveland and Boston. When a chart would indicate reception via Sporadic E, Mel would try to correlate it with weather conditions prevailing at the time.

On graduation from high school, I attended Washington College in Chestertown on Maryland's Eastern Shore for one year. Of course, I took my JFM-90 with me and installed it along with an FM dipole in my dorm room. Remember that the FM band was then 42 to 50 Mcs, so the dipole consisted of wire supported on insulators mounted on a strip of wood. Being for the 7 meter band the thing was 9 feet long. I came in for more than my share of razzing, but I was able to hear the Philadelphia FM stations and occasionally stations from as far away as New York City.

During the summer of 1945, I worked at the National Bureau of Standards Ionosphere Field Station at Sterling, Virginia, about where Dulles Airport is today. I learned a lot, including how to

**The amateur license required one to send and receive at 13 words per minute. There was no Novice or Technician license with a 5 word per minute test.**

read Ionosphere soundings. The station had an Ionosphere sounder with one or two 813s in the final. With a bunch of motors and gears, the thing would sweep from about 3 Mcs to 18 or 20 Mcs. This, and a number of direction finders, made Sterling a fascinating place to work.

But something else was going on that summer. The war in Europe had ended and speculation was that the Pacific conflict might not last too much longer. No one knew, of course. If we had had to invade the Japanese islands, it could still be a brutal and protracted struggle. Nevertheless, incentive licensing reared its head. I felt that, now, I had the incentive to obtain an amateur license. The theory did not present much of an obstacle. From my own reading and the tutelage of some very good Elmers, such as W3EJB, I had only to review the questions in the License Manual in order to assure myself of passing the written exam. But the code was another matter. I had sort of learned it, but never practiced and obtained any speed. The amateur license required one to send and receive at 13 words per minute. There was no Novice or Technician license with a 5 word per minute test. You did 13 WPM, or you flunked.

There was no reliable code on the air. The hams were not yet back on. So I rented an Instructograph machine. This was a big black box with punched paper tapes with the code on them. You could vary the speed from a few words per minute up to 30 or more. Every waking moment, when I wasn't at work out in Virginia, I listened to code, as well as practicing my sending. By the time the first atom bomb was exploded over Hiroshima, I was ready to go down to the FCC and take my test for a Class B amateur radio license. Class B was all a newbie could get. You had to have that for a year, before you could take the Class A which gave you phone privileges to 20 and 75 meters. With a Class B, you could operate CW anywhere and phone on all bands except 20 and 75.

*(continued on page 42)*

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# Rules and Regs Digest

John B. Johnston, W3BE, 17701 Bowie Mill Road, Derwood, MD 20855-1608

## VECs' EXAM

**DISCLAIMER:** Opinions expressed by the authors of articles contributed to the Journal do not represent the official position of the Officers or Directors of the Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc.



For the past 26 years, under agreements with the Federal Communications Commission, our 30,000 volunteer examiners have been recruited and accredited by our volunteer-examiner coordinators. Now fourteen in number, our VECs must also cooperate in maintaining our question pools. The VECs have formed themselves into the National Conference of Volunteer-Examiner Coordinators, for which W3BE serves as the Vice-Chairman. The following is taken from his lighthearted welcome to the annual NCVEC meeting in Gettysburg, PA, on July 23, 2010

Welcome back, volunteer examiner coordinators, to our annual Gettysburg conference. We have some very important work to accomplish here today. It is essential, therefore, that everyone participating in this conference is prepared properly to consider fully all of the facts that will be presented here and to vote wisely on all critical questions.

As Vice-Chair, my job is to preside as the Leader for our Principal Examination System Team. Our objective is to prepare and administer the examination that will determine whether or not you are ready to participate properly in this meeting. So, everyone please take out a clean sheet of paper and a pencil. Settle down and let's get serious.

Our administering PESTs are the Ham brothers, Manny, Moe and Jack. They are having breakfast and will be here later to sign any papers that need signing.

We will, of course, be using our self-inflicted multiple-choice examination format. The minimum passing grade is 74 points.

Your first question is worth 10 points. It is:

**NCVEC 1(a) What is the name of the gentleman who will be our Chairman today?**

- a. **Larry Pollock**
- b. Diane Zimmerman
- c. Maria Somma
- d. Donna Scott

The correct answer is: *Larry Pollock from the W5YI VEC.* Diane Zimmerman is the Chairperson for the Laurel Amateur Radio Club VEC. Maria Somma heads up the ARRL/VEC. Donna Scott is a key member of the FCC staff here in Gettysburg.

Did anyone miss this one? No one? Fine. You now have 10 points. Here's the next one; it is also worth 10 points:

**NCVEC 2(b) What is the name of the person who will be our Secretary today?**

- a. Michelle Williams
- b. **Michele Cimbala**
- c. Michelle Pfeiffer
- d. Michelle Obama

Hint: Our Secretary spells her first name with only one "L" and her last name with only one L.

The correct answer is: *attorney Michele Cimbala.* Michelle Williams is a singer and actress. Michelle Pfeiffer is a movie actress. Michelle Obama is our Nation's First Lady.

Did everyone get it right? You now have 20 points. Your next question is worth 10 points:

**NCVEC 3(c) What is the responsibility of our NCVEC Secretary?**

- a. File papers
- b. Answer the phone
- c. **Take minutes**
- d. Get coffee

The correct answer is: *take the minutes.* They are the written legal record of this meeting and may be subpoenaed. If it isn't in the minutes, it didn't happen.

You now have 30 points. Your next question is worth another 10 points:

**NCVEC 4(d) Which parliamentary procedure have the VECs agreed to use?**

- a. *Tom's Rules of Order*
- b. *Dick's Rules of Order*
- c. *Harry's Rules of Order*
- d. ***Robert's Rules of Order***

The correct answer is (d). The VECs have agreed to use *Robert's Rules of Order*. They were first developed by General Henry M. Robert. Wikipedia says that he is most famous for his collection of rules regarding parliamentary procedure published in 1876.

Following his poor performance in leading a church meeting, General Robert had resolved that he would learn all about parliamentary procedure before attending another one.

Some of you may know how dysfunctional such gatherings can become. Why, they can sometimes be almost as tortuous as our ham radio club meetings.

Parliamentary procedure is widely used in America to facilitate the democratic transaction of decision-making in an organized group. A multitude of books have been published on this topic. One easy-to-use version is *ROBERT'S RULES IN PLAIN ENGLISH* by Doris P. Zimmerman published by HarperPerennial. It is a very readable and authoritative guide to running meetings. If you ever have the misfortune of finding yourself as the president of your radio club, it can be your best friend.

For the rest of us, there is *THE GUERRILLA GUIDE TO ROBERT'S RULES* by Nancy Sylvester published by ALPHA. It is designed to give you the tools you need to participate effectively in a meeting. When everyone involved knows the procedures and has the full information, the process will win out and the group will make wise decisions.

You now have 40 points. Your next question is worth 20 points:

**NCVEC (5)(a, b, c, d) Whose rights do parliamentary procedures protect?**

- a. ***the majority to decide***
- b. *the minority to be heard*
- c. *individual members*
- d. *absentees*

*All of these answers are correct.* The rules of parliamentary procedure are based upon common sense and logic. They have evolved throughout centuries of usage and custom. By practicing correct parliamentary procedure, we also protect our self-governing NCVEC.

Each one of these correct answers is worth 5 points. So, you now have 60 points. Here is your next question; it is worth 10 points:

**NCVEC 6(d) Why are we all here?**

- a. *Confer with the FCC staff*
- b. *Plan for the future*
- c. *Elect officers for next year*
- d. ***All of the above***

Keeping with our World's worst-kept secret examination algorithm, *all of the above* is usually the correct answer and is usually in position (d). There will, however, very likely be a lot more going on at this conference. The informal person-to-person interaction and the exchange of ideas have been a key factor in the success of our VE system.

When this system began, we had only the FCC model to use as our template. We now have 25-years of experience in coordinating examination preparation and administration by VEs. We have a wealth of insight to share and our own army of battle-proven experts from whom to learn.

You now have 70 points. Here is your final and toughest question; it is worth 30 points:

**NCVEC 7 What is the purpose of our VEC system?**

- a. *Stimulate radio apparatus commerce*
- b. *Teach electrical engineering*
- c. *Augment land mobile, personal and marine systems*
- d. ***Get our VEs into hamfests free***

Although you may have heard some or all of those answers at one time or another, none of them delineate accurately the fundamental purpose for its existence. The correct answer, unfortunately, consumes more characters and spaces than our self-limiting multiple-choice exam format will accommodate.

The factual answer is stated in Section 97.503: A written examination must be such as to prove that the examinee possesses the operational and technical qualifications required to perform properly the duties of an amateur service licensee.

Keep this in mind as this meeting unfolds. Our amateur service community depends upon us getting it right. That rule requires us to incorporate everything that must be known to perform those duties properly into at least 1200 questions: Element 2 must concern the privileges of a Technician Class operator license; Element 3 must concern the privileges of a General Class operator license; and Element 4 must concern the privileges of an Amateur Extra Class operator license.

Make certain that each question resides within the appropriate element. When questions concerning the privileges of a Technician Class operator end up in the pool for General, for example, not only does that render the Technician pool incomplete, it also displaces questions essential to performing properly the duties of a General Class operator.

Because this question is unusable, everyone gets a presumptive 30 points. That means you have all scored 100 points.



As this conference progresses, please consider those VEs for whom you are to serve. They are on the front line donating their time and talent in attempting to determine whether or not their examinees are ready for the privileges afforded by an FCC license.

Please do not trivialize our examination system, our VEs or our amateur radio service.

Thank you for being here. Make use of this unique opportunity wisely. Our FCC amateur service community is counting upon you.

The Ham brother PESTs are enjoying another cup of coffee, but they will later sign the Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination saying that they were present and administering the exam. This meeting, therefore, may proceed.

Mr. Chairman! Having examined these outstanding candidates, it is my pleasure to announce that they have all aced the exam, thusly proving that they are properly prepared to participate in this meeting.

Congratulations, everyone!

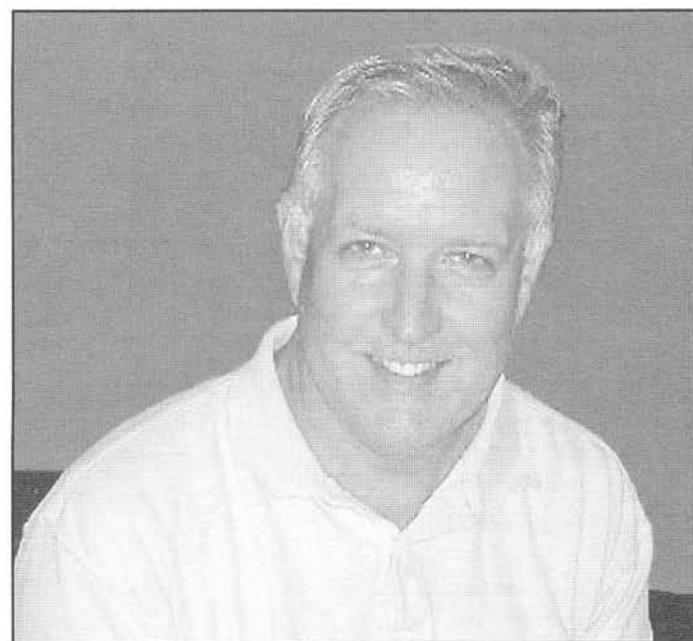


*Attorney, Laura Smith from the FCC Enforcement Bureau*

### **Read the rules - Heed the rules**

Have a question about the amateurservice rules? Visit <http://www.w3BEInformed.org> and e-mail [john@johnston.net](mailto:john@johnston.net).

The Rules Say... appears monthly in *WorldRadio Online* at <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>.



*Bill Cross, W3TN*



*Chairman, Larry Pollock calls to order the National Conference of VECs*



*Representatives of the VECs in attendance at the 2010 Conference.*



*Bill Cross of the FCC Wireless Telecommunication Bureau Mobility Division presents his report.*

# CHAPTER reports

Please send the reports to: Chuck Walbridge, General Manager, to arrive **NO LATER** than the following dates: January 1 for Spring, April 1 for Summer, July 1 for Fall and October 1 for Winter. Reports received later than the deadline may **not** be published in the Journal! See below for Chapter Report submittal requirements!

## Chapter 1, Cleveland (OH)

Recruiting new members is a continuing challenge for QCWA chapters, which is why Chapter One recently made a point to appear at the Cleveland Hamfest. The chapter banner was displayed, and a table held membership information, sample copies of our six-page newsletter, and a sign-in sheet for visitors. Lots of potential members stopped by, and a new member was signed up on the spot!

Staffing the table was Dick Ingraham, WA8TPP; Al Lada, WA8OZC; Vance Roth, KA8YHZ; and "Dee" Logan, W1HEO.

Our October meeting is traditionally when service awards are presented, and honorees this year were: (50 yrs) Clarence Saccany, K8SLF; George Keltner, K8SGM; William Hammond, WA8VMN; (55 yrs) Raymond Wassum, W8SLZ; Richard Petscher, W8BNT; Marvin Grossman, W8AZO; (60 yrs) Richard Scott, W8FDN; (70 yrs) Earl Carter, W4EU; (Century certificate) John Esborn, K8OCK.

Congratulations to all!

We welcome new Chapter One member Steven Molnar, W8ANJ, and regret to announce the passing of Ted Knyszek, KC8CUJ.

**D.E. "Dee" Logan, W1HEO**

## Chapter 6, Pittsburgh (PA)

Pittsburgh's Chapter 6 held its quarterly meeting at Rocky's II in McKees Rocks, PA on September 25th. We had a good turnout as our Snowbirds were still in town and the weather was excellent for travel. Our meeting opened with a moment of silence for long time member, George Kitazawa, NS30 (Silent Key). Some recollections of this fine gentleman were related afterward, and George will be greatly missed. The Chapter will be sending a contribu-



**Snowbirds, Dale, WB3CRC and Bob, K3ZAU, congratulate Art, W3WM, on 70 Years of Service.**

tion to the QCWA Scholarship Fund in memory of George, who valued higher education greatly and earned a PhD during his youth. The Chapter would also like to welcome new member, Sam Zborowski, WA3DIP, who was brought into the fold by Jane, N3ERM. Sam is a man of many talents, being an electrical engineer who enjoys flying as well as amateur radio.

Our guest speaker for the meeting was Art Kunst, W3WM, who spoke of his years on the Board of Directors for QCWA. Art related his long time involvement with QCWA, and some of the accomplishments of the Board during his tenure. Following the presentation, Art was presented a certificate for 70 years of amateur service.

Chapter 6 meets on a quarterly basis, and interested amateurs can get details by contacting Brian Roberts, K9VKY, directly, or by checking into the Sunday morning net. That net meets at 0830 prevailing time on 147.03 and is hosted by Bruce Murray, N3GHI. All are welcome.

**Brian Roberts, K9VKY, Chapter Scribe**

**ATTENTION! QCWA Chapter Report Guidelines:** All Chapter reports will need to follow these limits set by the Publications Standing Committee: **500 words and two photos maximum.** When taking photos, group together those receiving awards rather than individual photos. Those can always be posted on a Chapter webpage. **We do NOT guarantee that all photos submitted will be used!** When a Chapter report is submitted, please include the Chapter number in the title and then the subject line of your email and with any photos submitted. **Don't forget to send us photo CAPTIONS!** Preferred formats for the reports are: Word (.doc), rtf or plain text. Photos should be a **minimum** of 4 inches wide, grayscale format and at 200dpi. Larger is fine as they can be scaled down. JPG or .TIF format is best.



## **Chapter 8, Upper Midwest (MN)**

After our summer hiatus, Chapter 8 met in September at the Ft. Snelling Club. Eye Ball QSOs were the order of the day.

We received a letter from QCWA HQ thanking us for our Scholarship Fund donation. It honored our SKs for the past 4 years.

We also requested and forwarded Golden Anniversary Awards for 6 fellow QCWA members in Minnesota that don't belong to a chapter. This is something we decided to start doing in 2008.

Dave, NFOJ gave an excellent presentation on VHF Omni directional Range (VOR), a radio navigation system for aircraft.

Our Holiday Party is Dec 18th at the Ft Snelling Club, please join us.

**Bob Roske, NOUF Secretary**

## **Chapter 10, Michigan (MI)**

Our summer here in Michigan was one of the best in many years. Michigan fall colors might not have been as good as past years, but fall still is always a wonderful time of year in Michigan.

Our annual Chapter picnic was held on August 11th at the Kenwood Park in Cadillac, MI. There were only 11 members and spouses in attendance and all enjoyed good food and fellowship. The weather that day was perfect for the picnic. At the picnic, changing the day of the week to Saturday was discussed, as well as the location. That will be a topic for discussion at the annual 2011 meeting.

Wishing all a glorious, and healthy holiday season.

**Jeffrey Peters, K9JP, Secretary/Treasurer**

## **Chapter 20, Chesapeake (MD)**

Things are pretty quiet in the Chesapeake Bay area. We are waiting for more sunspots and looking forward to our fall picnic where we are summoned to gather at the home of John and Betty Johnston on October 4 for fun, games, and a little fellowship. There's always some good War stories about life and ham experiences. Some of them are even true.

We usually have a dozen or more members at our lunches, but only had six the day I needed to take a picture. I am the sixth, behind the camera. As one can see, we had the room to ourselves.

The Chapter meets every Monday at noon for lunch at the Golden Corral Buffet near the Arundel Mills Mall in



*Left to right: George Asaki, W3MPN; Nobu Asaki; Charlie, K3JJD; Eddie, KB3IKD; and Jim, W3SCD.*

Hanover, MD. We also have a weekly net on 146.76 MHz every Thursday starting at 2000 local time. Net Control station is KR3AB. All are welcome to check in. To receive our Chapter Newsletter, send an e-mail to kenmck-ee@aol.com, or stop by our QCWA table at any hamfest.

**Russ Slye, N3GT, Secretary**

## **Chapter 25, Nebraska (NE)**

Six members of the Board and two guests met July 17 at the lovely Mahoney State Park Lodge for Chapter 25's summer 2010 meeting. After lunch in the dining room overlooking the Platte River, minutes and reports were approved and business was discussed.

A note of thanks was received from Jill E. Peterson, granddaughter of Bill Wesslund, WØBJ, of North Platte, NE, recipient of Chapter 25's \$250 scholarship for 2010. Jill's goal is to become an elementary school teacher, possibly in music. In high school she was involved in a broad range of extracurricular activities and maintained an excellent grade point average. Her grandfather's pride was reflected in his nominating her for this scholarship.



*(Left to right) President Reynolds Davis, KØGND; Steve Loyd, AGØL; Bob Mitchell, WBØRJ; Treasurer Skip Miller, WØKVM; Guest Kathryn Miller, NØMDU; Secretary Kurt Bauer, WBØAEA; Charles Davis, KØFY. Photo by Guest Connie Zehr, NØGMA.*

A number of QCWA members participated in the annual Victoria Springs Steakfry and Hamfest July 24-25 near Anselmo, NE. "Victoria Springs" will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in 2011, and photos are solicited for a pictorial and history book or CD; contact Lyle Hunt, NØNU, at lhrusker@aol.com or Mark Doehling, WDØAAH, at surprisemd@windstream.net.

**Bob Mitchell, WBØRJJ, Chapter 25 Board Member**

### **Chapter 31, Reading (PA)**

It has been some time since Chapter 31 had a presence here in the QCWA Journal. Back when most of us were in the service, we used to say "no excuse sir". Although absent from the Journal, we have been somewhat active with our monthly breakfast meetings and weekly 2 meter net. On the first Wednesday of every month, we meet at Giannotti's Restaurant located at 1714 State Hill Road, Reading, PA. The breakfast meeting starts around 9:00 AM and we manage each month to solve most of the world's problems over eggs and such. Once in a while, we even discuss Ham Radio. At our August meeting Elmer Frantz, W3FQS, was presented an award to commemorate 75 years as a licensed Amateur Radio Operator. Elmer is an interesting gentleman with lots of experience and, he was a Charter Member of Chapter 31 when it was formed in 1966. Thank you, Elmer, for being a pillar in our Chapter and for contributing to Amateur Radio for over 75 years!

On a sad note, a good friend, mentor to many, faithful Chapter 31 member, and net control of the Chapters Monday night net, Duke, WB3JYR, has left us and is now a Silent Key. He is, and will be, missed.

If any of you "members-at-large" or members of other chapters find yourself in the Reading area on Monday

nights, our net starts at 9:00 PM local time on the Reading Repeater 146.91. Please check in and say hello. Also, please stop in and have breakfast with us on the first Wednesday of the month.

**Irv, W3IWJ**

### **Chapter 36, Northwest Indiana (IN)**

We've had a nice steady turnout for this quarter, with about 25-35 people attending our monthly meetings. And we just passed a milestone of 100 people on our Chapter roster, which includes both members and guests. It is great to see such a strong attendance each month, and we welcome everyone to join or visit us. See our website at [www.chapter36.org](http://www.chapter36.org) for the latest details on meeting dates and times.

Our July contest was to show us your oldest paper money. Gene Wiggins, W9CWG, won both first and second place with an 1864 Confederate States of America \$10 note and a 1914 \$1 bill that says, National Currency, on the face of the bill. Congratulations Gene!

Our August contest was for the oldest ticket stub from an entertainment event, such as a concert, or ball game, etc. With a crowd of collectors such as we have, I hoped to see a stub from the 1945 World Series with the Chicago Cubs (a local favorite) or some other very special event. But perhaps it is just my wife Deanna and I who save these things from shows we've seen. My wife had a 30-yr old stub from a 1980 George Carlin show, and we had a pair of stubs from a 1985 Deep Purple concert, which was one of our early dates together. This year is a "Quarter Century" celebration for us too! (I don't know how or why she has kept me around this long!)

Our September contest was the culmination of a three month long Summer Operating Contest to work the most QCWA members throughout the months of June, July, and August. This contest offered a prize too: an autographed 8x10 photo of Chicago's NBC5 Meteorologist Ginger Zee, a very beautiful young woman. Ginger also teaches

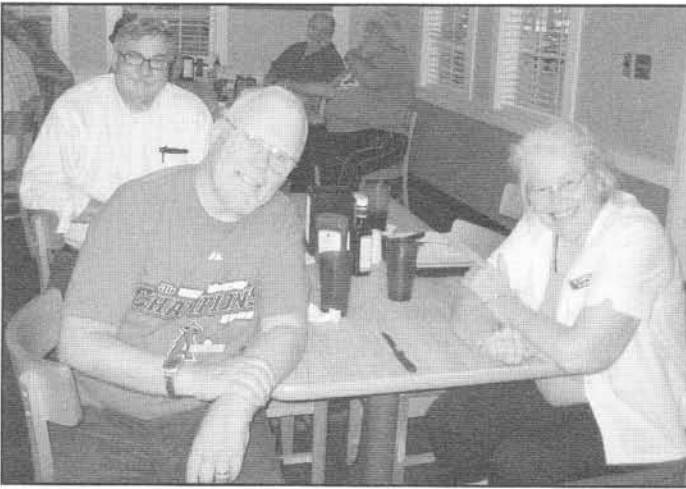


**Elmer Frantz, W3FQS, was presented an award to commemorate 75 years as a licensed Amateur Radio Operator.**



**Some of the gang from Lake County.**





*Three newcomers to our meetings, from Porter and LaPorte Counties.*

meteorology at a local university, and she signed the photo, "I love ham radio and the QCWA!" But I guess everyone was too busy with summer activities, or just not much into operating these days. I won the prize as the only person claiming a score... with a number of QSO's so low that I'm too embarrassed to report them.

The Chapter 36 photos for this quarter are just a sampling of some of the happy people at our September meeting. More pictures and meeting details are archived on our website each month. Please drop in and browse around.

**Stan Vandiver, W4SV, President**

### **Chapter 41, Barney Moffat (TX)**

Dallas Chapter members have doggedly survived yet another brutal Texas summer mostly by the recognized manly method of holing up underground or by escaping to chateaus in Colorado – neither course of action is openly discussed by the Chamber of Commerce. The extended period of heat-induced inactivity, however, provides thoughtful time for planning antenna repair following summer storms and preparation for anticipated better operating conditions characteristically provided by the advent of fall and winter. Among those surfacing from summer hibernation is veteran member John King, K5CDV, who has expressed renewed intent in restoring his 75-meter dipole to its rightful place in carefree space thus vacating its established challenge to grass cutters, while at a recent Chapter meeting other members told of equipment rehab projects they have engaged in during the summer hiatus while anticipating pleasant cold weather operating.

Chapter President Larry Essary, K5XG, who is a member of the Board of Directors of the Texas VHF-FM Society, has braved the torturous heat to conduct classes demonstrating and tutoring prospective tower owners in all

aspects of tower erection and maintenance and repair as well as antenna choice and installation. It's reported that as a bonus he also provided real life experience in tower foundation excavation by providing shovels rent-free to class participants at the site of his new tower.

The Chapter is saddened to advise of the demise of long-time member Wayne Wyatt, N5BV. Wayne was an Air Force retiree who was well acquainted with life in Greenland in the winter where he became an accomplished rifle and pistol marksman who was equally astute in targeting his RTTY signal to all points of the globe. Wayne's other life-long hobby was Calculus which also enabled him to explain to the curious why teletype machines didn't generally self-destruct – speculation of skeptical observers notwithstanding.

Celebrities occasionally checking into the Chapter's Sunday morning QCWA net on 3.835.00 include LeRoy (Baldy) Baldwin, W00FY, of Robins, Iowa who is also a National Director of QCWA. Members find it particularly refreshing to obtain a decidedly cooler temperature report from Baldy in Iowa during the summer when the temperature in Dallas is one-hundred-forty degrees (give or take). QCWAers and their families are cordially invited to attend the monthly luncheon meeting of Chapter 41 at MidPoint Restaurant & Club, on Midway Road at LBJ Freeway in Dallas held on the first Saturday of the month throughout the year. (Shoes required).

**Bob Olney, N5NT, Recording Secretary**

### **Chapter 46, Founders (NY)**

Founders Chapter 46 held its annual meeting at the Pastinas Ristorante in Hartsdale, New York on Saturday, June 19, 2010. This was a joint meeting with Hudson Valley Chapter 181 and the Council of Northeast Chapters of QCWA (CONEX).

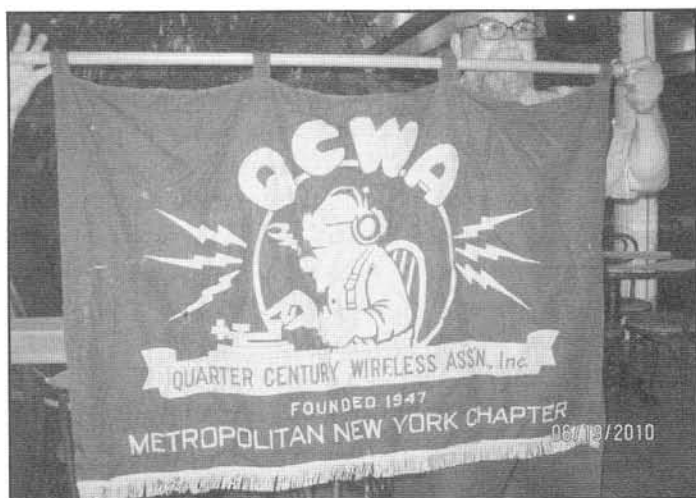
A moment of silence took place in memory of recent Silent Key Jerry Mulburg, W2MJP.

Lunch was served. The food and service were good. Secretary-Treasurer Frank Lauri, W2IX, gave the Treasurer's report and we are in fair financial health.

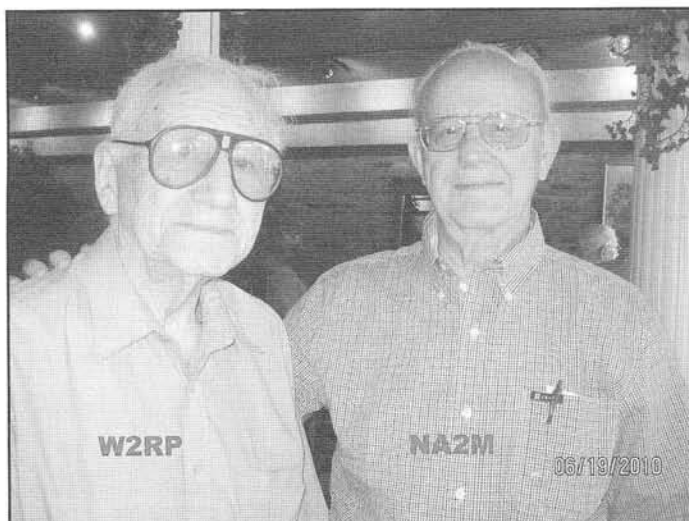
The original QCWA banner was located and present. Charles Hellman, W2RP, was awarded a 100 year birthday certificate.

Special guest, Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, described the future world of TV and digital technology.

Chapter 46 held an election for Officers and Directors and the following Officers were elected: President Lou Leonard, WA2UIJ; Vice President Sy Yuter, W2NBT; Secretary-Treasurer, Frank Lauri. The following Directors were elected: Stan Egelberg, W2WQK; Gus Levy, W2LAP; Manny Cohen, K2ILF; Mike Rapp, KA2FLB.



Original QCWA banner held by Secretary-Treasurer Frank Lauri, W2IX.



Charles Hellman, W2RP; with Bill Hellman, NA2M, unrelated.



Lou Leonard WA2UIJ, President, right; Director Stan Egelberg W2WQK, and Sy Yuter W2NBT, Vice President, left.

The Founders Chapter net meets every Sunday at 8:45AM on 3.917 mhz.

**Sy Yuter, W2NBT, Vice President**

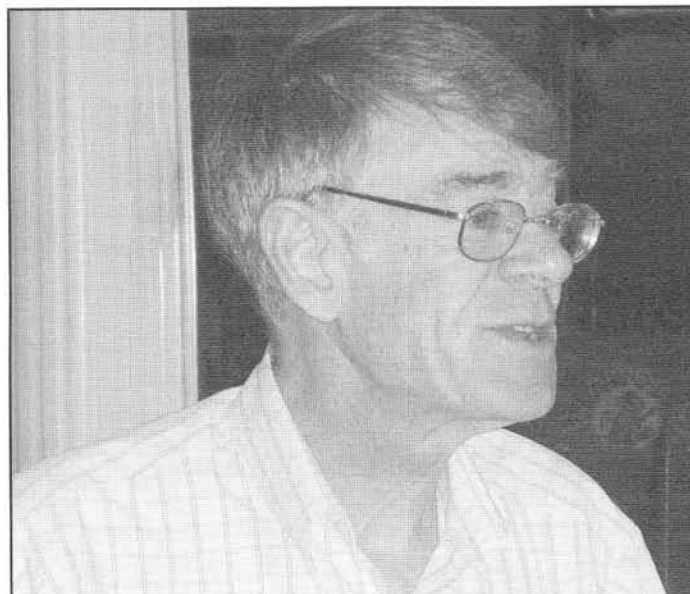
## **Council of Northeast Chapters of QCWA (CONEX)**

The Council of Northeast Chapters of QCWA (CONEX) held its annual meeting at the Pas-Tina Ristorante in Hartsdale, New York, on Saturday, June 19, 2010. This was a joint meeting with Hudson Valley Chapter 181 and Founders Chapter 46.

A moment of silence took place in memory of recent Silent Key Jerry Mulberg, W2MJP.

Charles Hellman, W2RP, was awarded a 85-year ARRL plaque on his 100 year birthday.

Every QCWA member in the northeast is a member of CONEX. There are no dues.



Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, conference speaker.



Gus Levy, W2LAP, presents certificate to Charles Hellman, W2RP, on Charles' 100 year birthday.



Dick Robinson, SK, W2OZA, was added as an Honorary CONEX Director.

Special guest, Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, described the future world of TV and digital technology.

CONEX held an election for Officers and Directors and the following Officers were elected: President, WF1D, Gerry Georgopolis Twin States; Vice President, WA2BSS, Stu Ballinger, Hudson Valley; Secretary, W2IX, Frank Lauri, Founders, Hudson Valley; Treasurer, W2NBT, Sy Yuter, Founders, Hudson Valley. The following Directors were elected: K2YLH, George Schomberg, Northern New Jersey; W2LAP, Gus Levy, Founders, Hudson Valley; W2WQK, Stan Egelberg, Hudson Valley; K2ILF, Manny Cohen, Hudson Valley; WA2UJ, Lou Leonard, Hudson Valley.

#### HONORARY CONEX DIRECTORS

- (1) W2KW, Clarence Seid, SK, Founders
- (2) W2JE, Gus Gironda, SK, Delaware Valley
- (3) W2DP, Francis Percival, SK, Founders
- (4) W2AUF, David Winter, SK, Founders, Long Island
- (5) W2TLC, Herman Milatz, SK, Long Island
- (6) W2JQS, Harrison Moore, SK, Founders, Hudson Valley
- (7) KA2IXW, John Weber, SK, Founders
- (8) W2OZA, Dick Robinson, SK, Hudson Valley

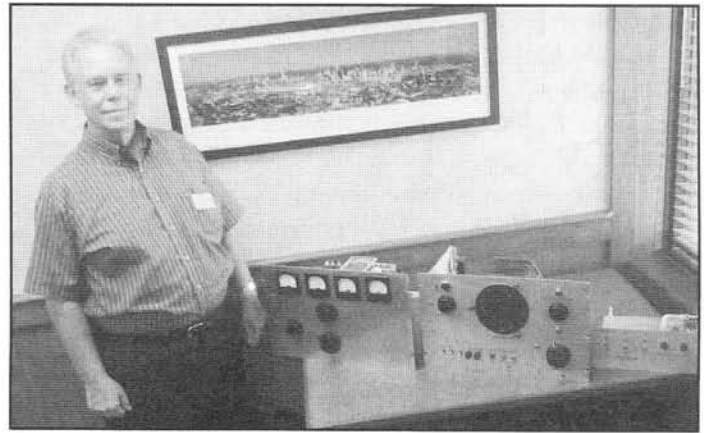
The CONEX net meets every Sunday at 8:30am on 3.917 mhz.

**Sy Yuter, W2NBT, Treasurer**

### **Chapter 49, Peach State (GA)**

Summer has passed and sunspots and the solar flux are on the rise and with its openings on the higher bands seem to be a little more frequent and last a little longer. We continue to meet very other month on the even months but the way publications deadlines fall,, we have only had one meeting since our last report to National.

In these days of QRP every now and then we encounter a project undertaken in the spirit of QRO. Chapter 49's own Richard Maxwell, W8KHK, presented just such a project. It seems that the 8877, in addition to being wonderful amplifier, is used in many MRI scanners and can, at times, be found on the used market. According to Richard, many institutions when using this tube in the medical setting, rotate the tubes out based on time-in-use. While technically "used", these tubes still have lots of "life" in the amateur radio sense of the word, left in them. Richard designed and built a linear amplifier and matching power supply around this tube using many recycled parts and a very small amount of cash. Having been a home-brewer for years, Richard did an amazing job of



*Chapter 49's own Richard Maxwell, W8KHK.*

incorporating many of the best practice features that have been encountered over the years in QRO amplifiers into this project. While he did bring the RF deck and control circuitry for a show and tell, he left the power supply at home. None of us were surprised to hear it was just too darned heavy with a 3000 volt 3 amp power transformer that weighs in at 250 pounds all by itself just for starters!

Most QCWA members are no strangers to tubes and there was much positive back and forth during Richard's presentation. There are many great semiconductor based rigs on the market today. Rigs built around Mr. Fleming's valve are still to be found and many still work great. QCWA and its members are in an excellent position to be able to answer questions like, "What is a "grid" and what does it do?" And those kinds of questions are out there. We here at Chapter 49 would like to help with those kinds of questions as they arise from our newer amateur radio colleagues with an interest in some of the older equipment.

Don't forget to check in with our Saturday morning net, 0900 hrs ET on 3.875 MHz. If you are in the southeast and hear us, give us a call. Listen for the Chapter 49 call sign, K4VN. We also have a local net on 145.410 (-) PL 100 that meets at 2000 hrs ET on Wednesday nights. With the advent of fall, we expect more activity on the Wednesday night net. And if you are in the area, please drop by one of our meetings. By the time you read this, we will probably be meeting on the first Saturday of the even months. Please check [www.qcwa49.org](http://www.qcwa49.org) for details.

**John Kludt, K7SYS**

### **Chapter 53, Suncoast (FL)**

The first Wednesday of last June, July, August and September, 14 to 18 Chapter members, spouses and friends enjoyed informal lunches together at the Panda Pavilion in Venice, Florida. These lunches offer great opportunities for "Eyeball QSOs," and we had no lack of varied discussions again this year.

Commencing 06 October 2010 and continuing through 04 May 2011, Suncoast Chapter 53 will again meet at Denny's, 3701 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota, FL, at 11:15 AM the first Wednesday of each month. All QCWA members, living in or visiting the Florida Suncoast area, are always welcome. Please contact our President, Conrad Owens, WA3RRS, via [kdowens39@hotmail.com](mailto:kdowens39@hotmail.com) if you are in the area and would like to join with us.

**Jack Sproat, W4JS, Secretary**

## **Chapter 64, El Paso (TX)**

Greetings from Chapter 64 in El Paso, TX and southern NM! We welcome our newest life member Larry Springsteen, WB8LBZ. Larry is also an Assistant Section Manager of the West Texas Section of the ARRL West Gulf Division.

With regret to report one of our members Bob Schoen, KA5EWK, as a Silent Key. Bob was a retired US Army NCO active on packet radio, APRS and emergency preparedness concerning amateur radio in the El Paso area. We will miss his friendly, upbeat personality. A donation to the QCWA Scholarship Memorial Fund was made by this Chapter in his honor.

Our Chapter has a monthly luncheon meeting on the third Saturday of each month at 2:00 PM local time at the Golden Corral located near the intersection of the North-South Freeway (US 54 South) and Transmountain Road (Woodrow Bean) next to the Wal-Mart store in Northeast El Paso. We also enjoy a weekly net on Saturdays at 08:30 local mountain time on 3933 KHz. Net control operators vary using our Chapter station call, W5RO. Out-of-town check-ins are especially welcome! Adios amigos, Merry Christmas. Happy 2011 and God bless!



Larry, WB8LBZ receiving his Chapter 64 Life Member Certificate from Chapter Secretary Manny Gonzalez, W2BFI.

**Rick Rumbaugh, W5PIE, Chapter Director**

## **Chapter 65, Niagara Frontier (NY)**

Members of the Niagara Frontier Chapter, many expert and experienced in the pioneer data mode (CW), received a briefing on the popular (and efficient) data mode, PSK-31. Steve Licht, WF2S made the presentation at the regular monthly luncheon of Chapter 65 members and guests at Brennan's Bower Bar & Grill on September 11th.

Steve showed a Power Point display of the history and technical features of PSK-31 and how it was being used today. He showed commercial and home brew equipment to illustrate that communication via PSK-31 is easy, efficient, economical, and enjoyable!

Our Chapter luncheons, the second Saturday of every month, always features a variety of choice of low-cost lunch entrees, abundant supply of 807s, and frequent interesting programs. One of our upcoming winter programs is a pictorial and first person account by W2AET: "Return to WCC."

**Bob Rooney, W2AET, Chapter Secretary**

## **Chapter 67, Austin (TX)**

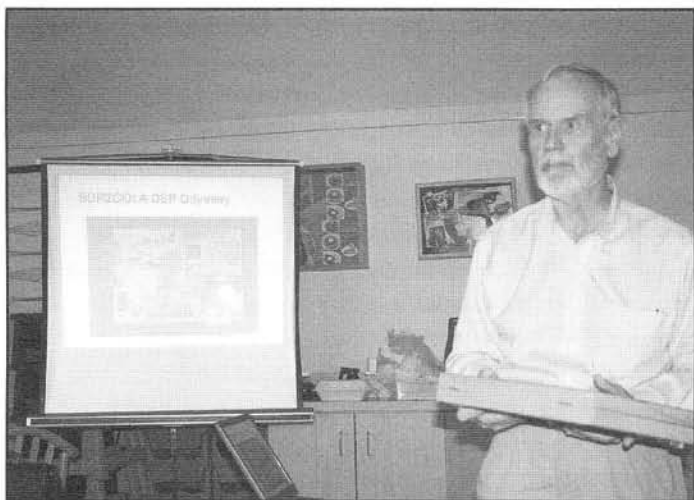


Chapter 65 enjoying the Power Point display.

Chapter 67 holds monthly meetings (third Saturday) at the IHOP on US Hwy 183 in Northwest Austin. Many gather for lunch at 1:30PM, with the business meeting beginning at 2:00PM.

This month we are extremely saddened to report the passing of long-time Austin ham, Harold "Hal" Henegar. Hal passed away on August 27, 2010. He had been weakened physically by a stroke during the previous year. However, he maintained a very good mental attitude

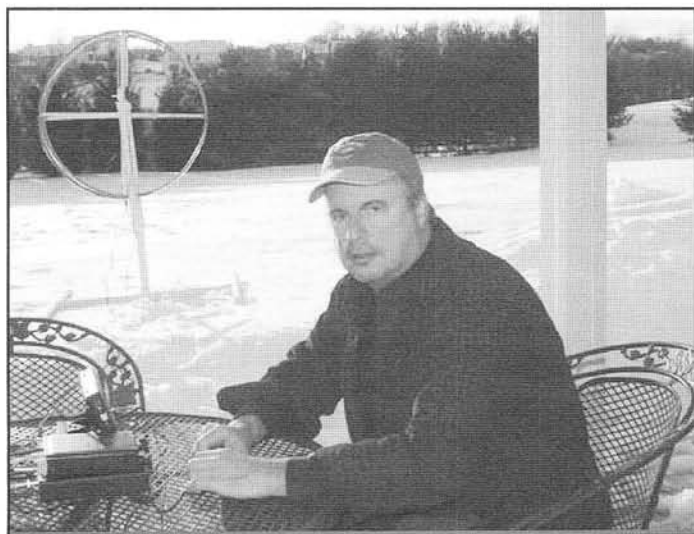




Charlie Hill giving his presentation.



Hal Henegar (SK).



George, N2APB.

throughout his physical decline. Hal has been an inspiration for local hams, especially the members of the Austin QCWA group.

Our August 2010 meeting was highlighted with a presentation on "SDR2GO" by Charlie Hill, W5BAA. Charlie described a project that he started a few years ago, and has been supported by several members of the Austin TX QRP club. The SDR2GO project incorporates all of the components needed to convert the popular "SoftRock" series of Software Defined Transceivers into standalone equipment that does not need a personal computer to operate. The SoftRock transceivers have been available for a couple of years from Tony Parks, KB9YIG, at very reasonable prices. However, a computer is normally needed for operation. Charlie's project eliminates the need for the computer and provides a compact, low-cost option for getting on the air with Software Defined Radio.

At our September 2010 meeting, Milt Cram gave a presentation on the "Midnight Loop Antenna". This is a unique Small Transmitting Loop (STL), designed by George Heron, N2APB, and Joe Everhart, N2CX, both of the American QRP Club. Such an antenna may be of considerable interest to those hams that have severe restrictions on antennas. The Midnight Loop could be easily placed in attic space and provide an invisible installation.

Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, was elected Vice President of Chapter 67 at our March meeting.

**Milt Cram, W8NUE, Secretary**

### **Chapter 70, National Capital Region, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada**

This summer, our Chapter 70 membership has dropped to about 80, with several of our older members becoming Silent Keys during the past few months. Since April, Chapter 70 members George Adamson, VE3XS; Don Heaslip, VE3NJH; Arnold Vandenbelt, VA3IEE; and Ken Scrivens, VE3LJ, as well as QCWA life members Bill Marsh, VE3SB and Ray Wilson, VE3WI, have passed on. All will be missed.

Over the summer months our popular weekly breakfasts continued to be well attended. In addition, dinner meetings were held on May 18th and on September 21st. The May meeting was spouses night, and those present were entertained by the amusing classic film "Mr. Hulot's Holiday."

At the September meeting our after-dinner speaker was Chapter 70 member Ying Hum, VA3YH, who spoke on software-defined radio as used to receive short-wave Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM) signals. Ying gave a personal and humorous talk describing his youth in China,



*Presentation of the QCWA Roll of Honor Award to George Roach, VE3BNO. Left to Right, Croft Taylor, VE3CT; George Roach, VE3BNO and Ken Pulfer, VE3PU.*

the family move to Hong Kong, and eventually to Canada. He became interested in radio at the age of 6, and has had a lifelong hobby of short wave listening, first in China, and later in Canada. Ying demonstrated the advantages of DRM, in particular the reduction of selective fading, and the improvement in fidelity of HF broadcast signals. He also described a number of interfaces he had built to allow the reception of DRM signals using a hand held shortwave receiver and a laptop computer. Also at the September dinner meeting, Don Dashney VE3RM was presented with a Certificate naming him as a Life Member of Chapter 70 in appreciation of his many contributions to amateur radio.

During the past quarter, our Chapter was indeed fortunate to have one of its members selected for the QCWA 2010 Roll of Honor Award. George Roach VE3BNO, a former QCWA Director, was presented with a plaque by Past President Croft Taylor, VE3CT, on behalf of the QCWA Board. The Award was given for George's outstanding work as Manager of Operating Awards, QSO Parties, and as Convention Host and Convention Advisor.

**Ken Pulfer, VE3PU**

## **Chapter 76, Blue Ridge (NC)**

First, to those of you who look forward, even in the smallest degree, to my quarterly missive on the happenings within Chapter 76 and noticed that it was absent from the fall edition of the Journal, I apologize. At our July meeting, Aimee McGinley and Hilliard Staton of the Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy provided us with an interesting presentation. This organization helps landowners protect local land and water resources vital to our natural heritage and quality of life. The CMLC is helping to create a

regional network of protected farm, forest, park and natural lands for future generations.... lands that could be lost to unwarranted or perhaps reckless development. They were rewarded for a great presentation by receiving Chapter 76 coffee mugs from K2SST, Chapter Vice President.

August brought a visit from QCWA Director Ken Simpson, W8EK. Ken shared pictures of his motor home trip to Alaska last summer and updated us with highlights of the QCWA Board of Directors Meeting held in May. He and his XYL were also in attendance at the local WCARS Hamfest flying the flag (and picking up new members) for QCWA. As a token of appreciation for his visit, a Chapter coffee mug was presented by Chapter President, W4DK.

And finally, September. Our presentation this month was a talk on Active Senior Living by Mrs. Marcia Caserio. Marcia is a well-known speaker in the local area and has done a great deal of research on seniors and their medical problems. She is married to a physician and relates to the medical problems of seniors from experience within her immediate family. Considering that she was addressing a group of seniors, her comments and advice were timely and well-received. We added to her coffee mug collection (yes, she has one) with the usual Chapter mug presented by VP K2SST!

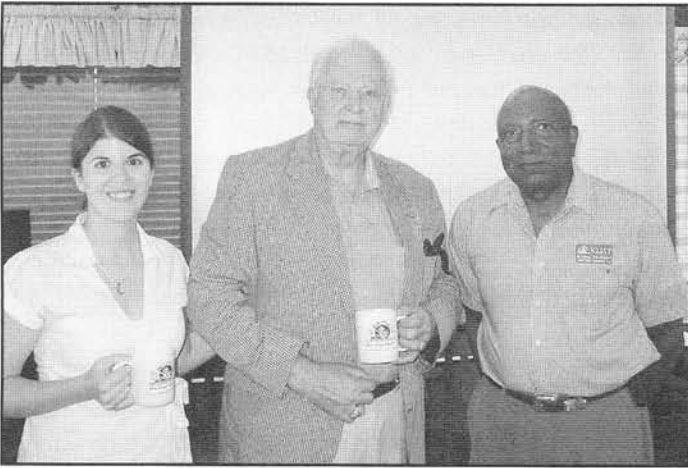
Just so we don't come up short in the months ahead, six dozen new coffee mugs were purchased. We not only give these to our speakers as a form of "thank you," but they are available for purchase. Microwave and dishwasher safe, they make a nice memento.

October will bring the nomination of a new slate of officers for 2011 to be elected at our "annual meeting" in November. The usual procedure is for everyone (except



*Mrs. Marcia Caserio and our VP, K2SST.*





*Aimee McGinley, Hilliard Station, and Vice President, K2SST.*

the Secretary and Treasurer) to move up one seat so we only have to look for a new Director for a 2 year term. The nominations are open ..... any takers?

We still meet at the Golden Corral on the first and third Wednesday of each month except December. Good idea to check our web site <http://www.qcwa76.org/> for any changes. Stop by and visit ... the lights are on and the door is open.

**Duke Knief, W4DK**

### **Chapter 85, Ark-La-Tex (LA)**



*Duke Knief, W4DK (left) and Ken Simpson, W8EK.*

Chapter 85 held its quarterly meeting at the Bossier City Library on July 31st. Club members discussed how we can help support the ham-related educational activities at the Sci-Port Science Center in Shreveport. Our weekly 2 meter net was another meeting topic. The net is currently conducted on the 145.43 repeater until the 146.67 machine is replaced. Thanks to the Minden Amateur Radio Association (MARA) for the temporary use of their repeater.

Several Chapter members were seen at the recent 44th Annual Queen Wilhelmina Hamfest. Held at the historic mountainside retreat, the Queen Wilhelmina State Park in Mena, Arkansas, the gathering was well attended. Chapter 85 members in attendance were: John Mussey (N5FJ), Jim Howard (K5TC), Mickey Cox (K5MC) and John Stewart (AA5KV). Congratulations to the Queen Wilhelmina Hamfest Association for another job well done!

The Thursday "lunch bunch" is currently being held at Strawn's Restaurant on Airline Drive in Bossier City. The group gathers at 11 AM and everyone is welcome to attend.

**John Stewart, AA5KV, Secretary/Treasurer**

### **Chapter 89, South Carolina (SC)**

The regular meeting of South Carolina Chapter 89 was held Saturday, September 25th, at Ryan's Steak house in Columbia.

Certificates of service were presented to: Ted Craver, W4IOQ, 65 years; John Langley, K4CSB, 55 years; Bill Pennekamp, WA4WGP, 55 years; and Jerry Deal, K5FSS, 50 years. All of the above, except for Ted Craver attended the meeting so got their Certificates in person. Ted's was mailed to him.

A brief program was given by Bryce Myers on the status of the statewide linked repeater system.

A short description was given by Bill Pennekamp on the status of a new emergency trailer system being put together by the Charleston Amateur Radio Society (Club). The trailer is a 6 by 12 air-conditioned trailer being outfitted for two operating positions and capable of operation on HF and VHF.

**Ralph Mott, N4RM**

### **Chapter 91, Vic Clark (VA)**

Chapter 91's August meeting, in the heart of the vacation season, looked like it would be poorly attended but we ended up having one of our best turnouts. We started off with our awards ceremony honoring 7 members who rep-

resent 410 years of amateur radio. Two members, John Swafford W4HU, and Ralph Albers W4ER, were first licensed more than 70 years ago; James Ahlgren W4RX had 60 years; Ray Johnson K5RJ and Charles Proctor KM4CQ each had 55 years; and Frank Haynes W4NUA and Bob Spiller AJ4RS with only a mere 50 years. Awards were also given to John Reiser WQ4L and to Nelson Seese W4BHD (Big Hound Dog) as winners in the Chapter 91 HF Contest.

Our speaker for the day was Brennan Price N4QX, Technical Relations Manager for ARRL. Brennan lives and works full time in the Washington area while representing amateur radio and the ARRL with federal government agencies, the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and other worldwide agencies. He says that his goal is to "defend Amateur Radio spectrum, and if the opportunity presents itself, help gain some."

On September 19, the Chapter held its annual picnic at the home of President, Byron Black, W4SSY. On the deck, beneath the Chapter 91 banner, the guests enjoyed all sorts of snacks and, of course, the required hamburgers and "Bros". In addition to good conversation, we were entertained by Byron's 1927 crank-up phonograph with lots of old 78s such as the Andrew Sisters and Glenn Miller. Do any of you from Korean War times remember

the GI hit "She ain't got no Yo-yo?" When the sun became too hot, the party moved to the shaded driveway and the entertainment changed to dulcimer lessons by Tim Donovan W4CLK. Tim, our ex-President, not only plays the dulcimer and gives lessons, he also makes his own instruments. By the end of the party, several people could play almost recognizable versions of "Boiling Cabbage Down."

**Byron Black, W4SSY, President**

## **Chapter 107, Lakeland (FL)**

The Chapter held its monthly meeting on September 18th with 7 members present. John Gallagher, K4GXY, announced that long-time member Norman Wedell, W9HOH, had moved from the area and now lives in Charleston, IL.

It was decided that the Chapter would begin contacting the other Polk County amateur radio organizations in an attempt to recruit new members. Rip Van Winkle, AA4HT, and Jack Falkenhof, K4BYF, will head the effort.

The Chapter meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month at Clara's Restaurant in Lakeland. All interested Hams are invited to attend. Our "winter visitors" will soon be arriving and members of other Chapters are especially welcome. Contact either Rip at aa4ht@tampabay.rr.com or Jack at k4byf@aol.com for more information.

**Jack Falkenhof, K4BYF**

## **Chapter 112, Yankee (RI)**

Chapter 112 Summer Picnic was held at the New England Wireless and Steam Museum, East Greenwich, RI on August 21, 2010 with 14 members and guests present. The weather was perfect and the Museum was open for everyone to enjoy.

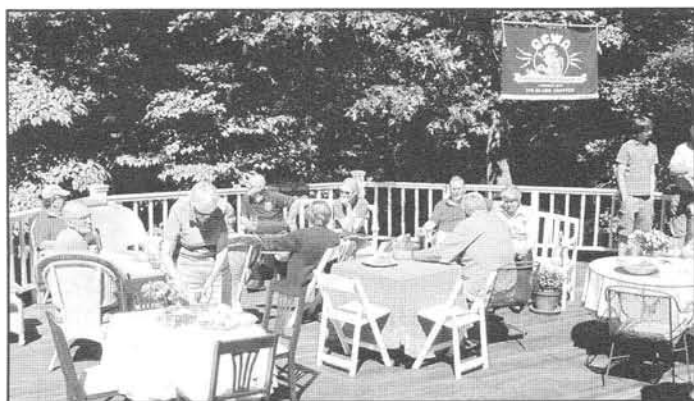
Thanks to Tony, WA1ENO and Anne, WB1ARU for bringing vegetables from their garden and pears to share. Thanks to Bob, W1NTE for opening the Museum for our Chapter.

Our fall meeting will be held at the Yangtze River Restaurant, Littleton, MA on October 23, 2010. The QCWA National Convention is scheduled for September 9-11, 2011 at the Crown Plaza at the Crossings, Warwick, RI.

**Janice, K4IJK, Secretary**

## **Chapter 120, QCWW (WI)**

Our next Chapter gathering will occur at the 2011 QCWA National Convention in Warwick, Rhode Island



*The Chapter 91 annual picnic: sharing food, stories, and even a radio.*



*Brennan Price N4QX, tells how he represents the ARRL and amateur radio.*



from 9 to 11 September 2011. Our current Chapter President Janice Lentz, K4UJK and her home Chapter are one of the five sponsoring New England QCWA chapters for next fall's event. Hopefully we will have a meeting slot for about an hour on Friday, 9 September 2011. Our main business task will be the election of Directors. We will be looking for officers – a two-year term – for President, Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer. It is generally pretty easy work as we only have one meeting a year and that always occurs at the annual QCWA Convention. I am going to try and put a program together and cover the history of QCWW for our Annual Meeting.

I will be traveling with our Chapter Banner as I head down to Florida for the Orlando HamCation from 11 to 13 February 2011 and over to the Dallas, TX HamCom next June. I am also trying to develop a miniature banner that would stand on a table without taking up too much room. I think I might have more success displaying the smaller flag at another QCWA Chapter's function.

I would like to extend mine and Chapter's congratulation to Blanche Randles, W4GXZ, on receiving the 2010 John DiBlasi Award in recognition of her efforts in originating the taping program for our visually impaired National Members; her support mentoring to many QCWA Chapters and her service as a National Director. Blanche is a founding and Charter Member of our Chapter as well as a Past President and Director. Blanche, for myself, Chapter 120's membership and the entire membership of QCWA please accept our profound thanks for a job well done!

I have talked before of starting up the QCWW net and thought I would revisit that topic while the band conditions are still bad – or least they are in Wisconsin. I was thinking 20-meters between 14.200 and 14.400 MHz, once a month to start, on a Sunday about an hour before the QCWA net with rotating Net Control Stations. Now! Anyone interested in being the first net control operator for a QCWW net to begin in the Spring of 2011. If so, send me an email: wa9jmo@wi.net; give me a call at 262-639-7327; or drop me a note via the USPS to; Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO, 5400 6 Mile Road, Racine, WI 53402.

I would like to wish you and your family a most Happy and Joyous Holiday Season.

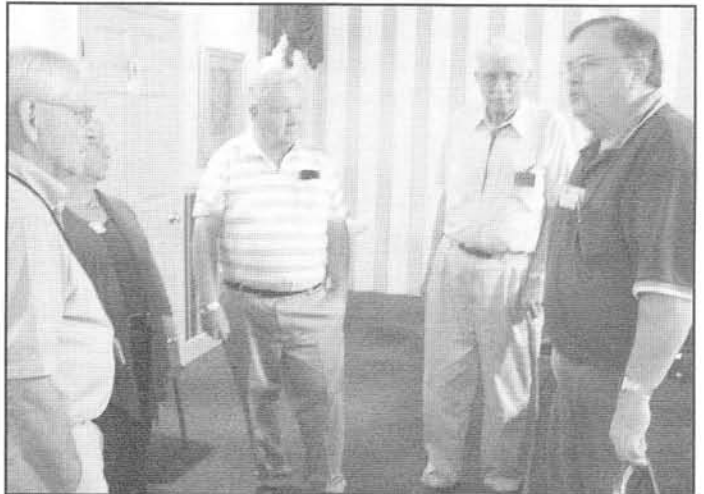
**Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO, Secretary/Treasurer**

### **Chapter 126, Piedmont (NC)**

The Piedmont Chapter 126 held its regular meeting on Saturday, September 18, 2010 at The Best Food Cafeteria in Siler City, NC. There were 19 members and guests present. The following Board Members were present: Charlie, WB4DCM; Kent, K4MK; Carl, KJ4WD; Wes,



*Left to Right, Curt Phillips, W4CP and Bob Saunders, W2ITN, new Chap. 126 Members. Then Jim Krasula our meeting speaker and our member Wes Jones, WJ4DX.*



*Left to Right, Chap 126 members Charlie, WB4DCM, Mary Jo, K4MJL, Bob, W2ITN, Weldon, W4AJT who recently received his 80 Year Plaque and Curt, W4CP.*

WJ4DX; and Chuck, K4HF. Among the items discussed were meeting locations, possible programs, the successful move to net frequency 3.826 MHz and ideas to encourage QCWA and Chapter membership. Charlie presented the Treasurer's Report and his process of tracking Chapter member data and awards. We discussed the idea of holding our quarterly meetings in the same location and how might we increase attendance at both the Saturday Net and the quarterly meetings.

At the general meeting, following blessing, lunch and introductions, the newest Chapter members Bob Saunders, W2ITN of Oak Ridge and Curt Phillips, W4CP of Raleigh were introduced. The latest Chapter Life Member is Ralph Irons, N7IR of Charlottesville, VA. Charlie gave the Treasurer's Report and the Q3 Net Report received from NCS W4DGJ. George didn't miss a net and WB4DCM missed one session. K4KAY and W4MBD were not present to receive their 50 and 55-Year Anniversary

Certificates. Weldon, W4AJT was present today and thanked the Chapter for sending him his 80-Year Anniversary Plaque. Wes Jones, WJ4DX, then introduced his good friend and our guest speaker, Jim Krasula, a CBS Radio Journalist. Jim has been covering domestic and world events for CBS for over 15 years. He showed us several of his pieces of equipment he takes and uses on assignment. The stories, antidotes and ham radio involvement were great.

We regret the passing recently of Chapter member Sharon Rogers, KA4ZBY, wife of our own Terry, WA4BYV in Chapel Hill. A contribution to the QCWA Scholarship Fund was sent in her name.

Don't forget our weekly Chapter net at 8:45am, each Saturday on 3.826 MHz.

The door prizes were won by W4HF, W4AJT and KJ4WD. All members are encouraged to invite friends and family to participate in Chapter activities. The next Chapter 126 Meeting will be on December 4, 2010, at the place and program to be announced.

**Chuck Littlewood, K4HF**

## **Chapter 130, Inland Empire (CA)**

As we pass through the September equinox, members and friends of the Inland Empire Chapter 130 begin to settle into the nineteen-year tradition of continually meeting "on the air". The 988th consecutive weekly meeting of these members and friends alike was conducted on September 8, 2010.

Originally touted as the "CLX" net, the Roman numeral for 160, and meeting on 1896 kilohertz, the net was founded by Troy Wideman, W6HV (then AA6J), in 1991. Members of the original CLX group included W6JGL (SK),



**Troy Wideman, W6HV, and Loueva.**

W6PCG (SK), K6SS (SK), KA6MGB (SK), W6EKM (SK), W6DIS (SK), W6YYV (SK), K6KJK, KA6BRU, AB6TB, AG6X (no W6HG), W6SQZ, and AA6J (now W6HG). We typically have nine regular check-ins and average seven during the summer months and, last year, ten during the quieter winter months. In the past we have had up to fifteen checking in and this includes stations as far as Canada, Kansas, Utah, Nevada, Colorado and Arkansas. The net has never missed the Wednesday evening schedule. Currently the operating frequency is 1896 KHz and the start time is 0230 UTC and the net control, W6HV, typically begins calling for check-ins at 0215 UTC. There is no membership requirement to participate.

As California Chapter 130 approaches nearly 1000 consecutive meetings on the 160 meter band, plan to join us on 1896 kHz., 0230 UTC.

**Phil Sedgwick, N6CMF, Secretary**

## **Chapter 141, High Plains (TX)**

Chapter 141 sponsored the Route 66 On The Air event in Amarillo again this year. Our operators were Brad Miskimen, N5LUL; John Ashurst, K5FS; Scott McDowell, N5SM; Bob Hill, W5FBQ; and Jim Musgrove, K5BZH.

The event was started in the year 2000 and just continues to grow. This year Route 66 had 17 fixed sites scattered along the location of the old Mother Road. In addition, there were 3 rover stations, one more than last year. That provided 20 stations, with special event calls from W6A through W6T for folks to chase.

W6I in Amarillo made 1263 contacts this year. Most of our operating was on 20 SSB and 40 SSB. The distribution of Qs was as follows: John, K5FS, 629; Jim, K5BZH, 410; Brad, N5LUL, 200; Scott, N5SM 13; and Bob, W5FBQ, 11.

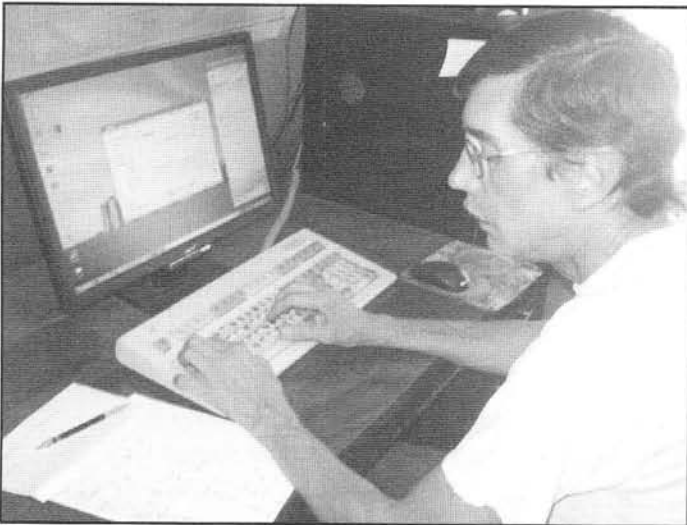
John, K5FS, made several contacts outside of CONUS that included: Alaska, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Cayman Islands, Hawaii, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Portugal, Puerto Rico, and Venezuela.

The band conditions weren't that favorable as we have seen in earlier years. We experienced lots of QSB, rapid fading. One minute someone might have a 33 signal and a minute or two later be 57. QRN levels were high at times.

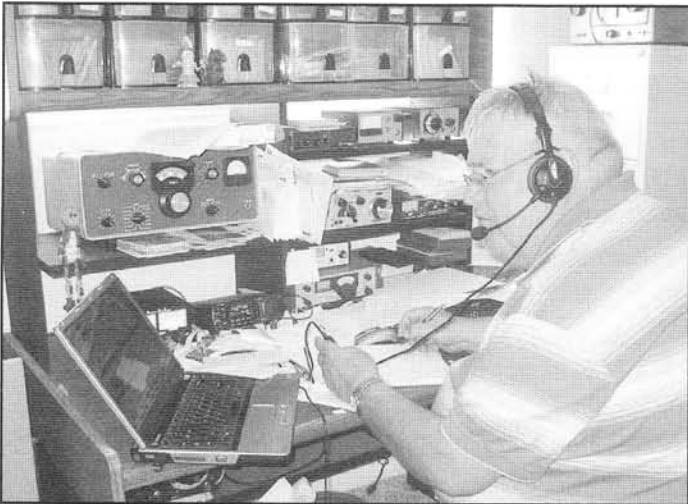
The second weekend of the contest was murder. The Washington Salmon Run was running full force. The QCWA QSO Party was also active. In addition, the Northern California Contest Club had activated an event that had folks collecting calls that ended with a /40.

After it was all over, Brad reported that he had managed to get a clean sweep as he worked all 20 of the Route 66





Picture shows N5LUL after the event was over moving data from paper logs to a computer file. Some of us have a hard time breaking old habits.



K5BZH, after nine hard days of operating Route 66 On The Air, it is easy for the shack to find itself in need of a little cleanup activity.

stations under his home call of N5LUL. Jim worked 18 of them as K5BZH, missing W6L in Tulsa and W6R, who was one of the rovers. John worked 13 of the other stations.

During the Route 66 Event I heard someone ask the question, "Is everyone in Texas named Jim or John?" I guess our mothers weren't that creative when it came to names; some weeks back our big club in Amarillo finally resorted to adding identifiers to all of the Johns. We now have folks known by things like Security John, Weaver John, Money John, Section John, and so forth. The thought occurred to me that I have yet to meet my first Rumpelstiltskin down here and there are darn few with names like Cyrus, Ira, or Noah.

The dust is now settling from the Route 66 On The Air. The Texas QSO Party is right around the corner. November brings Sweepstakes. Straight Key Night starts New Year's Eve.

We are approaching the holiday season too. Halloween is in October. Then Thanksgiving, a few weeks later Christmas; then in a few days there will be New Year's Eve. Our members will be spending time with family and friends. Last year's Christmas Party was viewed favorably and our Chapter already has plans in the works for another one this year.

*Jim Musgrove, K5BZH*

### **Chapter 145, Smoky Mountain (NC)**

Chapter 145 continues to be active with the Southern Appalachian Radio Museum and the recent Waynesville hamfest. The Chapter had a table at the Waynesville hamfest exhibiting just a few of the many old radios from our museum. There was a lot of interest from those that attended.

So far this year we have had numerous visitors to the museum and invite anyone in the area or those vacation-



Dean, WA4CNI; Clint, K4KRB; John, W4QCF; and Norman, N4NH receiving Century Club Certificates.



George Dominick, W4UWC, donating a mint RME-84 receiver to our museum.

(continued on page 30)



## Quarter Century Wireless Association Convention

In  
Warwick, Rhode Island  
At the  
Crowne Plaza at the Crossings  
September 9-11, 2011



**Headquarters Hotel:** Crown Plaza at the Crossings, 801 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick, Rhode Island 02886. A block of rooms are being held for this convention at the rate \$109.00 plus tax (currently 13%). For reservations, please call the hotel number 1-800-2CROWNE or 1-800-227-6963 and mention QCWA 2011 Convention for this special rate. They will start taking reservations on October 15, 2010.

**Rail and Air Travel:** At least six Northeast Corridor trains daily, both northbound and southbound, run through Providence. Amtrak depot is 15 minutes from the Crown Plaza. From the main corridor stops, Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Washington connections are available to long-distance Amtrak and Canadian ViaRail routes. Information is available at 1-800-USA RAIL, [www.amtrak.org](http://www.amtrak.org) and [www.viarail.ca](http://www.viarail.ca), 1-888-VIA RAIL. The capital city of Providence and Airport (T.F. Green International Airport) are minutes away from the hotel. T.F. Green Airport provides service through the following airlines: Air Canada, Continental, Delta/Delta Connection/Northwest Airlines, Southwest, United, and US Airways. The hotel shuttle to both the Warwick train station (soon to open) and the airport is available to/from the hotel free of charge.

**Activities:** Informational and entertaining presentations and seminars on Friday and Saturday. Details are forthcoming, see the next QCWA Journal for updated information.

**Tours:** An exciting variety of tours and activities are available here in Rhode Island. With much to choose from to highlight the Warwick/Providence area, your host chapters have arranged an impressive selection for you including:

- Thursday: 1:00 – 5:00 Tour of Federal Hill, a harbor tour, Brown University and a stop at the State House.
- Friday: 10:00 – 4:00 Tour of Newport with a guided tour of one of the mansions, lunch (on own) and shopping in Newport.
- Saturday: 11:00 – 4:30 Trip to the New England Wireless & Steam Museum and QCWA picnic, box lunch included.
- Sunday: 1:00 – 4:00 Trip to Herreshoff America's Cup Museum in Bristol, includes admission.
- Monday: Special Post-Convention Trip to ARRL Headquarters and opportunity to operate W1AW (bring a photocopy of your license).

**Attractions:** Rhode Island offers many interesting places to visit if our tours do not interest you such as: Museums, Zoo, parks, shopping, and great beaches to name a few. The "Creative Capital" of Providence, R.I., has indeed been reborn in the last decade, as residents have reclaimed derelict buildings and two of the city's three rivers, created waterside walkways, and welcomed brand-name shopping. When you add in a burgeoning dining scene, rich New England history, the new Chace Center at the Museum of Art – Rhode Island School of Design (it displays twice as much art as before), a monthly gallery night, and a renowned performing arts scene, this underrated city seems tailor-made for a quick and fulfilling getaway.

**Souvenirs:** Be sure to get your QCWA commemorative pin with your Convention registration. Many other collectable items will be available at the convention.

**Prizes:** An assortment of drawings and door prizes are planned. We are grateful to our many sponsors and contributors who, with their support, are helping to make the 2011 Convention a memorable one.

**Registration:** Convention Registration is available now! Use the Registration form in this issue, or download it from the QCWA website and print out a blank copy to complete by hand or fill it in on your computer to print a legible copy to mail with your payment. Your form and payment must be received through the mail to confirm your registration (address on registration form).





# 2011 QCWA National Convention

## September 9 – 11 · Warwick, Rhode Island

### Hosted by the New England Chapters



#### Convention Headquarters: Crown Plaza at the Crossings, 801 Greenwich Ave., Warwick, RI 02886

Single or Double rooms are available for \$109.00 + taxes (tax currently 13%). For reservations, contact the Hotel directly at their toll free number: 1-800-2crown or (1-800-227-6963), Hotel reservations will not be taken until October 15, 2010. Identify yourself as QCWA 2011 Convention attendee. Regular parking is free. RV spaces are also available at \$25.00 plus tax per night. These spaces do not have water or electric hookups. The hotel has a complementary airport shuttle, high speed internet, fitness center, as well as many other amenities to make your visit enjoyable.

#### Early Bird Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest/Friend: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Youth (under 18): \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Staying at Headquarters Hotel? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ RV

Local Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

	Quantity	Total
Pre-registration (before 1 Apr 11)(includes Convention Pin) .....	_____	@ \$25.00 _____
Registration (after 1 Apr 11) .....	_____	@ \$35.00 _____
Spouse Registration .....	_____	@ \$ 7.50 _____
Guest/Friend Registration .....	_____	@ \$20.00 _____
Youth Registration (under 18) .....	_____	@ \$ 5.00 _____
Friday "Meet & Greet", Heavy Hors D'oeuvres and special guest speaker (TBA) .....	_____	@ \$29.50 _____
Saturday Banquet & Dance to the hits from our younger days .....	_____	@ \$47.50 _____
Choose one meal per person: New York Steak _____; Chicken Saltimbocca _____; Scrod _____		
Speaker, Mr. Riley Hollingsworth, Special Counsel, FCC, Retired.		
Sunday Morning Farewell Buffet Breakfast .....	_____	@ \$24.50 _____
Thursday Tour .....	_____	@ \$45.00 _____
Friday Tour .....	_____	@ \$60.00 _____
Saturday Tour .....	_____	@ \$65.00 _____
Sunday Tour .....	_____	@ \$45.00 _____
Monday Post Convention Tour .....	_____	@ \$55.00 _____
2011 Convention Pin .....	_____	@ \$ 5.00 _____
		Total: _____

**All net proceeds will be donated to the QCWA Scholarship Fund.**

Return this completed registration form with a check or money order made payable to "QCWA 2011 Convention" and send to:  
Diane Swenson, Treasurer, QCWA 2011 Convention, P.O. Box 403, Bolton, MA 01740

ing in the nearby Smokies to stop by. Museum admission is free. We are located on the A-B Technical Community College campus in Asheville, North Carolina. See our web site at [www.saradiomuseum.org](http://www.saradiomuseum.org). We have been fortunate recently to have received several donations of old radios. One very fine museum donation was from George Dominick, W4UWC, who donated a nice working RME-84 receiver. This is the radio that George started with many years ago when first licensed as a novice.

Four of our Chapter members, Dean, WA4CNI; Clint, K4KRB; John, W4QCF; and Norman, N4NH recently received their Century Club Certificates. These four members together represent well over 200 years in amateur radio.

We invite anyone in the Asheville, North Carolina area to attend one of our monthly meetings. We meet in the museum on the second Friday of the month at 3:00 p.m.

**Myron Cherry, K4YA, President**

## **Chapter 149, Nutmeg (CT)**

The summer meeting and luncheon of the Nutmeg Chapter 149 was held at the Groton Inn & Suites in Groton, Connecticut on August 14, 2010. Chapter President Mike Schindler, K1AMS, moderated the gathering. Thanks to Skip Swensen, WB6VVA, the group learned more details about the 2011 QCWA National Convention to be held in September in Rhode Island. Chapter 149 is among the co-hosting chapters.

Special thanks go to Al Cohen, W1FXQ, for lining up another special speaker for the luncheon. The Nutmeg Chapter welcomed Sean Bercaw, the Captain of the Freedom Schooner Amistad. According to their Web

page, [www.amistadamerica.net](http://www.amistadamerica.net), this 140-foot wooden schooner is a replica of the original Amistad and was built at nearby Mystic Seaport.

Captain Bercaw summarized the history of the original Amistad, and he discussed his experiences on the schooner. He and his crew members have made transatlantic voyages to Europe, Africa, and also to the Caribbean that included a stop in Cuba in March of 2010. This past summer, the Amistad has been undergoing repairs at Mystic Seaport. After hearing the stories of Captain Bercaw, Nutmeg Chapter members and guests have a little better idea of what life is really like on a boat sailing upon the open sea!

**Steve Ewald, WV1X, Secretary**

## **Chapter 151, Wild Rose (Alberta)**

The fall luncheon meeting of Chapter 151 was held at the Tuxedo Park Community Association Hall on September 25, 2010. Chapter President, Ken Oelke (VE6AFO) opened the meeting and welcomed new friends, members, and guests. A moment of silence was held for the following Silent Keys and hospitalized amateurs:

- John Smith (VE6AI), SK
- Bob (Fergie) Ferguson (VE6AWO), SK
- Bryan Rhyason (VE6NA), hospitalized

Awards of Appreciation were presented to Nancy Jenkins (VE6OTL) and Brian Hoyte (VE6IMB) for their hard work in helping with kitchen duties and organizing our luncheon meetings. During the business part of the meeting, discussions were held regarding a new venue for the luncheon meetings starting with the spring 2011 meeting; and the possibility of incorporating the Chapter under the Alberta Societies' Act, as a result of liability insurance requirements for many hall rentals in Calgary. Chapter 151 continues to look for volunteers to help teach Morse code to student groups at the Military Museums. Interested people can contact Ken Oelke (VE6AFO) for more details.

Following the business meeting, Ken Oelke (VE6AFO) showed a DVD presentation starring Canadian Astronaut Robert (Bob) Thirsk. The video was about an International Space Station (ISS) contact with VE1MR in celebration of the International Year of Astronomy – 2009. As well, Ken showed a couple of TV video news clips outlining a couple of ISS school contacts held in Calgary during 2006 and 2009.

The next meeting of QCWA Chapter 151 will be held April 2011.

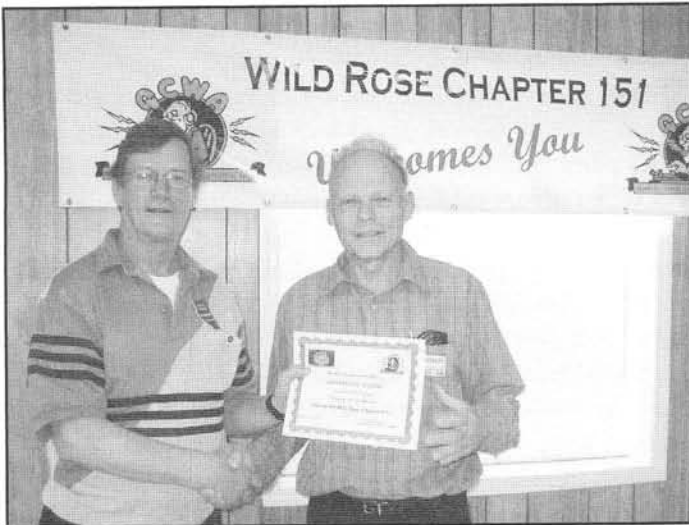
**Mitch Goodjohn, VE6SM, Secretary**

## **Chapter 155, Virginia (VA)**

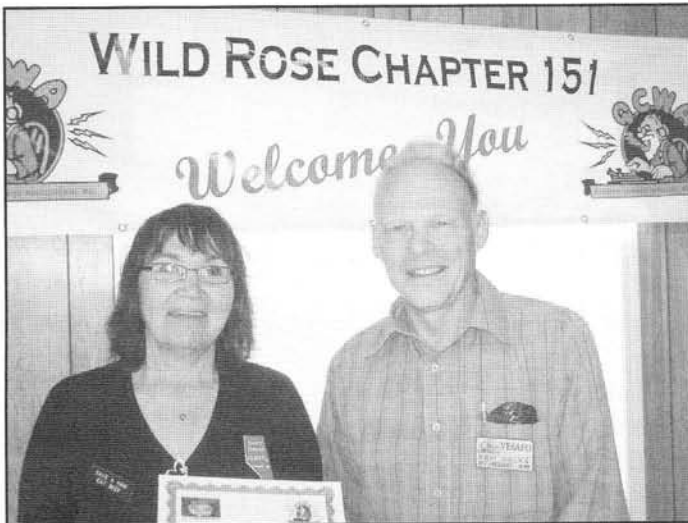


*Captain Sean Bercaw, of the Amistad, made a presentation at the Nutmeg Chapter 149 summer luncheon in Connecticut (Photo by Steve Ewald, WV1X).*





Brian Hoyte, VE6IMB receives his Award of Appreciation from Ken Oelke, VE6AFO.



Nancy Jenkins, VE6OTL receives her Award of Appreciation from Ken Oelke, VE6AFO.

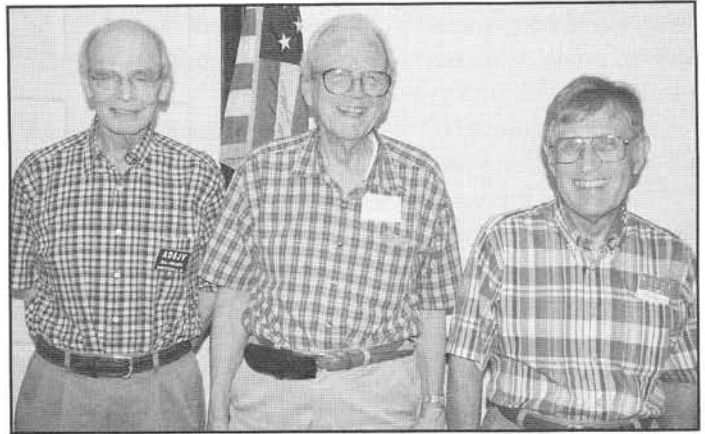
Chapter 155 met on July 18, 2010 at the Blue Ridge Café in Ruckersville, VA. There were eight QCWA members in attendance with three other amateurs and seven guests.

The current appointed President, Stan K2SSB, gave a history of his appointment after the death of President Bob W4RQ and his contacts with QCWA headquarters.

Current officers were received: President Stan Hazen K2SSB, Vice President Bill Phillips AD6JV and Sec/Treasurer Jim Owen K4CGY.

Phil Lawrence W4DGN gave a talk about how he started as an amateur operator during his teen years using a HB regenerative receiver and later an ARC-5 and BC-348 receiver. Also his experiences as a NCS on the Georgia Cracker Net.

An excellent meal was enjoyed by all with lots of good



Officers, L-R: Bill Phillips, AD6JV, 35041, Vice President; Stan Hazen, K2SSB, 31163, President; Jim Owen, K4CGY, 33620, Secretary/Treasurer.



Members attending, L-R: Jim Crosby, K4JEC, 35226; Bill Phillips, AD6JV, 35041; Jim Owen, K4CGY, 33620; Dick Florence, K4VY, 23370; Harry Dannals, W2HD, 07425; Stan Hazen, K2SSB, 31163; Ernie Sardi, W2EIU, 23600; Art Dechent, WA4WQG, 24574; Phil Lawrence, W4DGN, 17464.

fellowship.

Pictures were taken after the meal of all QCWA members.

The following QCWA members were present: Harry Dannals W2HD, Stan Hazen K2SSB, Jim Owen K4CGY, Ernie Sardi W2EIU, Art Dechent WA4WQG, Bill Phillips AD6JV, Phil Lawrence W4DGN, and Jim Crosby K4JEC (joined at meeting). Others present, but not members were Mella Sardi W2HTJ, Pat Crosby K4PMC, and Richard Florence, K4VY.

**Stan Hazen, K2SSB, President**

### **Chapter 165, York County (PA)**

Chapter 165 meets bi-monthly. At the June 2010 meeting of the Chapter it was decided to purchase ARRL License Manuals to be loaned to young students that were enrolled in a study program for the Technician License. To get the word out we contacted just 2 of the 5 ham radio clubs in the county. There was an immediate request for 4 books. It became apparent that we needed a way to not only distribute the books but we needed some rules as to

who would be eligible for the books and a method for follow up on each student. We didn't want to be in the business of just distributing books.

At the August 2010 meeting of the Chapter we decided these would be the rules for the program.

A copy of these rules will be attached to each book that is distributed.

1. The books will be ARRL license manuals.
2. The student must be enrolled in a class or a scheduled class or must be under the tutelage of an Elmer that is a member of a club. We want to be able to contact the Elmer for progress reports.
3. The books will be on loan until the student becomes licensed; then they will become property of the student.
4. The student will make monthly reports to the Chapter, via email, as to their progress.
5. In the event the test is failed after six months or the test is not taken, the books will be returned to the Chapter or purchased by the student.
6. The email address to report to is w3axc@yahoo.com

When I sent these rules out to the Chapter membership for approval I included our National President Bob Roske, NOUF, Bob thought it was a good idea and forwarded my email to Chapter Secretaries and Presidents nationally. I had some feedback from several people. Most thought it was a good idea, but some thought we should put some extra requirements on the students to make sure they stay in the amateur ranks. We kicked that around but we felt there are many opportunities for new hams other than what we would require, so we have left this open to the Elmer or the club they may join.

Maybe by the time to report for the Spring Journal I'll have a progress report.

**Ray Shaub, W3AXC, Secretary**

### **Chapter 182, Northeast Tennessee (TN)**

On 1 May 2010, a group of QCWA members and guests from Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia gathered at the Golden Coral restaurant in Johnson City, TN for its first noon luncheon meeting of 2010.

Attending were ten Chapter members: David Rotenberry, K4DR, President; William (Bill) D. Price, W4CZ, Sec/Tres.; Charles K. Perry, K4OZX; Garland Caudill, W4WFX; Robert Simmons, W4UKJ; Bill Owen, W4VS; William (Bud) Cornell, W2TXU; Carl Smith, AA4H; Ralph Young, N4TG; Richard Church, N4ARO; and six guests: Paul Marcum, AC4QZ; Bill Carty, W4AWJ; D.B. Honeycutt, WB4BRV; W4CZ's XYL, Connie; W4WFX's XYL, Brenda; and W4UKJ's XYL, Sue.

The program at this meeting was an awards/certificate "Show & Tell". Three members brought awards and/or cer-

tificates obtained during Ham Radio Special Events, QSO parties and/or ARRL & QCWA Awards;

Dick Church N4ARO, displayed his QCWA WAS award (difficult & rare) along with several other state wide QSO party participation certificates. State QSO parties are Dick's primary interests.

David Rotenberry K4DR, displayed various awards/certificates including the California QSO Party & an Apollo Launch Day Space Center WB4ICJ certificate, along with several others.

Bill Price W4CZ, displayed a WAZ RTTY certificate, along with 5BDXCC and noted having Apollo Launch Day Space Center WB4ICJ certificates from 10 thru 17 moon missions. The toughest he said was ARRL's "Top of the Honor Roll" award. Explaining it took 10 years to receive the confirmation of the German DXpedition to Yemen (7O1YGF) to be able to reach the # 1 "Top of the Honor Roll" spot!

For several remaining after the program, general ham radio-related discussions followed and the meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.

**William (Bill) D. Price W4CZ, Secretary/Treasurer**

### **Chapter 196, Edison (FL)**

Chapter 196 members have had a busy spring and summer.

Stella J. Gurka, WB2FAU, had the honor and privilege of being asked to operate W2MM during the April, 2010, QCWA QSO Party. Stella was the designated phone operator for our Headquarters station and she did a fantastic job.

During the same QSO Party, Tom Batchler, NT4TS, earned second place phone honors. You should have seen the stack of awards and certificates that Tom brought to our luncheon to share with us.

Tom Root, WB8UUJ, was presented with his certificate for being licensed 50 years ago. It was also my pleasure to be able to honor Gene Baber, W8SZU, with his 55-Year Certificate of Continued Amateur Radio Service.

For those who like to visit us during the winter, we have had to change luncheon locations. We meet in Lehigh Acres, FL, at Mugs n Jugs. Please visit our chapter web site for details at [www.edison196.org/](http://www.edison196.org/).

**Tad Burik, K3QC, President**

### **Chapter 202, Old Dominion (VA)**





*Tom Batchler, NT4TS.*



*Gene Baber, W8SZU.*

The Old Dominion Chapter once again manned a booth for Family Day at the D-Day Memorial in Bedford in July. Family Day is designed to inform people, and especially the younger generation, about the activities associated with WW II. Vintage equipment is on display and a working station was setup. Activities include an explanation of how messages were sent using CW. Visitors are given the opportunity to send a message – either generic or their original to family and friends using a relay system. Hands-on experience was given to those interested in using an oscillator to send their name in code after being taught by one of the members.

The event was rained out in the middle of the afternoon, and the weather cut down on the number of visitors. Six QCWA members were at our “booth” during the day:

Bill, KC4D, brought his “old” receiver and transmitter which was operated on 20 Meters. A total of 19 QSO's were made. A special QSL card with a picture of Bill's rigs was made to send along with the standard WW2DDM card.

Attendance was sparse, but Radiograms were forwarded to Harry, KA2NZR, on two meters via the repeater on Apple Orchard Mountain; and then sent out over the traffic network.

A meeting was held during the Roanoke Hamfest at the end of July. Ken Simpson, W8EK, QCWA Regional Director, gave an overview of the latest happenings of the QCWA.

Marion A. “Jim” Wise, W4PRO, a well-known Tidewater DX and Contester, shared photos and commentary on his DXpedition to A5 Bhutan as well as side trips to Nepal and Tibet. He began the program dressed in native attire which he brought back with him. It was an entertaining as well as an informative presentation.

In early September, the Chapter held its annual picnic at the lovely residence of RTTY and Low Band Expert Sam Leslie, W4PK. Sam gave a short program about his experiences working with the FCC. Herman Cone, N4CH, presented a program of “never went into production” pieces from his vast – and workable – collection receivers, transmitters, etc. Several 50-Year Certificates were presented to those present.

The Chapter is looking forward to its end-of-the-year Christmas luncheon in December.

***William Svec, WA4BKW***

### **Chapter 213, Fresno (CA)**

Greetings from Fresno Chapter 213. Our monthly meetings are on the 4th Tuesday and Noon at Carrow's Restaurant, 4480 N. Blackstone, in Fresno. All QCWA members are welcome to attend if they are in the Fresno, California area on our meeting day. Our meetings are very informal with an average attendance of 20 members and guests. Our Chapter 213 Station, WQ6CWA and member WA6NIF were active in the fall QCWA QSO Party. W6DPD and WA6NIF have been heard on the QCWA International SSB Net on Sundays and 2000 UTC on 14,347 MHz.

***Charles McConnell, W6DPD, Secretary/Treasurer***

## **Chapter 214, Bluegrass (KY)**

It has been a hot summer with lots of summertime noise on the bands, and couple that with no sun spots, equals little activity on the bands. A lot of the Bluegrass Chapter members have made good use of the summer hot dry weather to do antenna projects.

The Bluegrass Chapter would like to welcome Ken, N4AI, of Somerset and Bill, N4LG, of Nicholasville as new members to 214 and we're glad to have them.

Joe, K4DZM, reports that the damage he sustained from earlier in the summer has been repaired and tower and yagi are back up and flying. Dave, K8DV, has all his antennas ready for the upcoming DXing season except his 160 inverted vee which should be repaired and back in the air within the next few weeks. Matt, AA4XA, reports he should have his 80 meter antenna up soon. Fred, WA4SWF, reports he has been working on his station setting it up for more digital work, DX'ing and Contesting.

Fred, WA4SWF, was recently appointed to Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator and continues to work in Region 4 in KY with the ARES. Fred has been promoting the QCWA at all meetings and ham radio gathering he attends. The Chapter would also like to congratulate Fred on his recent appointment as Assistant Vice Director of the ARRL Great Lakes division. Joe, K4DZM attended the Louisa Hamfest and set up the QCWA table.

The Central Kentucky Hamfest was held in early August in Lawrenceburg and was attended by many Chapter members. After the Hamfest Joe, K4DZM, and Carol (Joe's wife), hosted many of the members at the chapter's second regular meeting with a good ole fashion cookout. Many items of interest were discussed at the meeting with one main topic being should we consider setting up another round of on-the-air meetings this fall. Dave, K8DV, Chapter Secretary presented Chapter President Joe, K4DZM, with a 55-Years License Certificate and thanked him for his service to ham radio and received a great round of applause from the crowd.

Joe, K4DZM, also attended the hamfest in Richmond in September where he joined Ken, W8EK, QCWA director to promote QCWA. Dave, K8DV also met up with Ken at the Ten Tec hamfest where Ken reported he was glad to see some activity in the bluegrass.

Hope everyone had a great summer and we look forward to seeing you on the air.

***Dave, K8DV, Secretary***

## **Chapter 217, The Villages (FL)**



*The members of Chapter 214.*



*Dave, K8DV, Chapter Secretary, presented Chapter President, Joe, K4DZM, with a 55-Years License Certificate and thanked him for his service to ham radio.*

Report: July, August, September, 2010. Paid Members: Twenty. Membership up by two from last report.

Monthly Meeting: 2nd Thursday of each Month @1030AM EDT. The Veranda Cafe, Lake Sumter Landing Square, The Villages, FL.

Were dodging the hurricane bullet again this season. We've been lucky so far. Hopefully we'll have another uneventful season.

Mr. R.E. Johnson, K4ROT, received his Century Club Certificate at our July meeting. We had a very nice meeting, sharing ham radio experiences and "I can top that one" type stories.

Our meeting place is going to change next month. The Veranda Cafe has been purchased by Panera Bread & Bakery Coffee Shop. We are hoping that we'll be back at the same place after the Panera renovation.

Several Chapter members plan on participating in the QCWA QSO Party this weekend, "18 Sept". That's always a fun event for some of us.

Hope everyone has a nice fall and a moderate winter.

***Harold Lloyd, W4OE, Secretary/Treasurer***

## **Chapter 219, Upper Peninsula (MI)**





*Pictured front row, seated left to right: Al LaPlaca, W2WW; Hal Lloyd, W4OE; Wayne Schieber, KC4FE. Standing left to right, middle row: Jules Deschenes, W1GDE; Nathan Pautz, WA9PEJ; R.E. Johnson, K4ROT; John Fleming, W3GQJ. Back row, holding banner, left to right: George Rutkoskie, W4GOR; Art Fenn, KB9MI.*



*Tom Zeratsky, K8IC0, (center) receiving his 50-Year and 50-Year Continuous Certificates from Chapter 219 President Dave Arnold, W8DXX, (right) and Chapter 219 Vice-President, Jim Callow, K8IR (left).*



*New QCWA member Jack Hudson, W9MU (left) and Chapter 219 Secretary John W. Anderson, WD8RTH (right), at the QCWA booth in Escanaba.*



*Pictured from Left to right: R.E. Johnson, K4ROT and presenting the award is John Fleming, W3GQJ Chapter 217 President.*

Our summer meeting was August 7th at the U.P. (Upper Peninsula of Michigan) Hamfest, which is held on the campus of Bay de Noc Community College in Escanaba MI. We had an excellent turnout and all enjoyed the Hamfest and other meetings going on. Several of our members drove over 150 miles—double that for round trip—for this event. Kudos for commitment and caring!

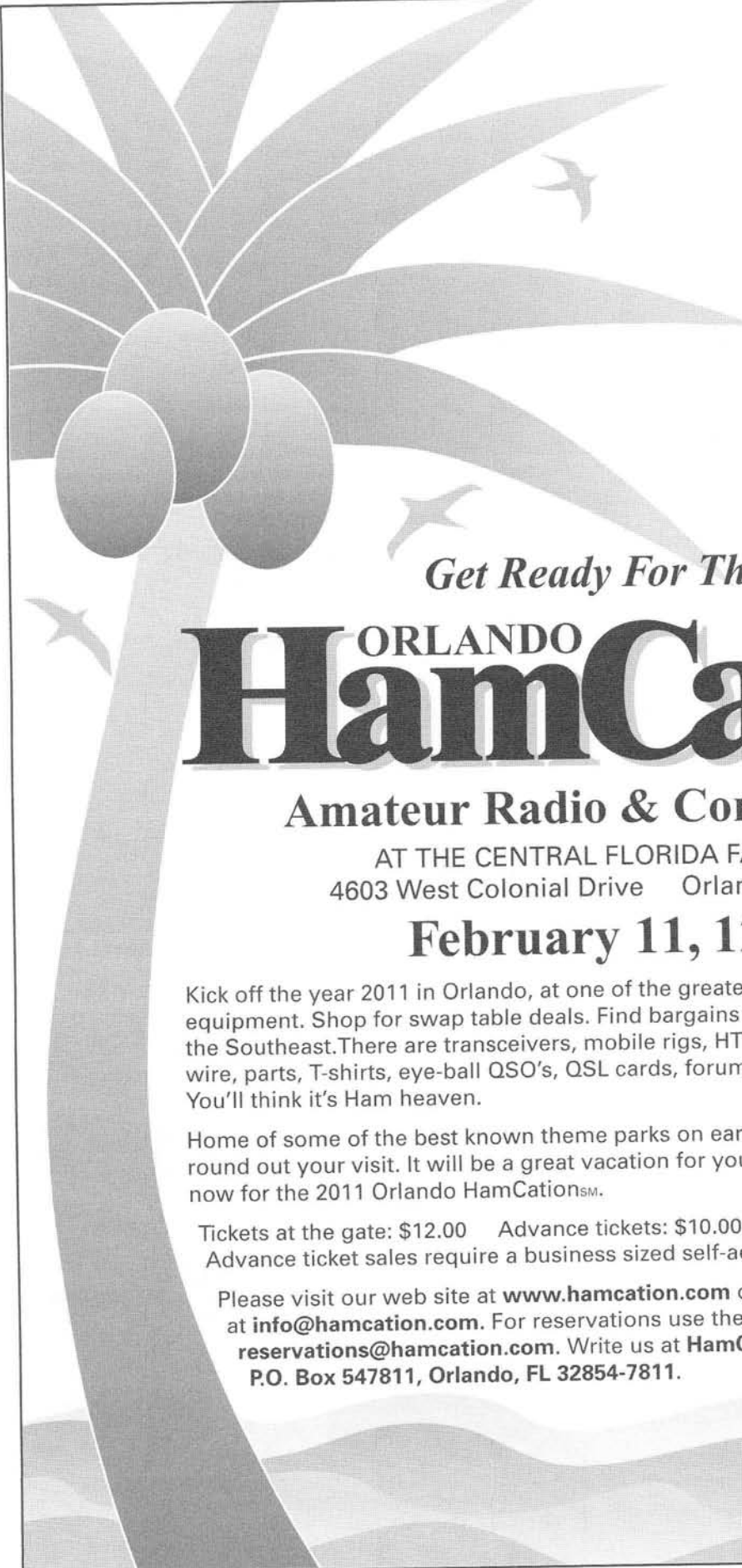
The fall meeting will be held in Green Bay, WI, on Saturday, October 30, at the National Weather Service site there, with a tour of the facility to follow. We welcome Jack Hudson, W9MU, and Roger Reader, KA9BKK, as new members of QCWA and Chapter 219.

**John W. Anderson, WD8RTH, Secretary**

## AWARD UPDATE Richard Weaver, W3HXX



*Secretary Walt Supina and his wife Aura Lee (N3EPB) stopped on their way to Florida to present 65 and 70 year certificates to Richard Weaver, W3HXX. Richard, a retired minister, and his wife Virginia live in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Richard, first licensed in 1938, originally held the call W8DOU.*

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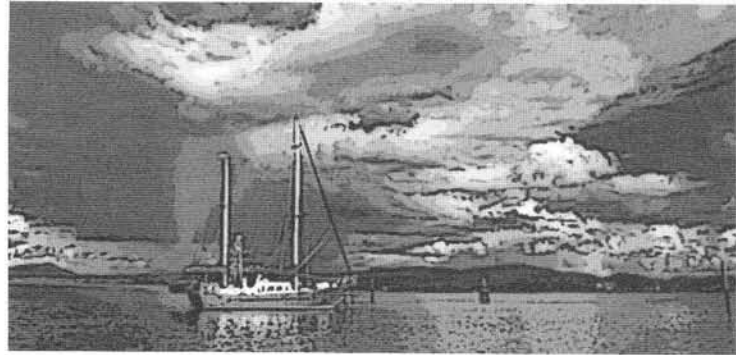
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# PART 3:

## QCWA Expedition to Tangier Island!

By Quint Webb, K4CQW • Edited by Vic Culver, W4VIC



*W4T Expedition to Tangier Island, July, 2009  
Part III by Vic Culver, W4VIC, and Quint Webb, K4CQW,  
edited by W4VIC*

***This episode is the conclusion of a mini-DXpedition and IOTA activation undertaken by QCWA Chapter 119 in July of 2009. If you have been following this story, you may note a change from past tense to the present tense for this concluding installment. While not good to mix tenses in a continuous story, the harrowing action in this concluding segment almost demands the immediacy of the present tense. Apologies to those who would insist on strict tense continuity in text.***

### Underway from Tangier

The fun begins. We slip our lines and slide out into the channel, leaving Milton's pier behind. The water depth is about 8 feet and a narrow channel makes for a slow beginning to our return journey, but soon we are in 10 feet of water and heading in a southwesterly direction. As peaceful as our transit from Norfolk to Tangier was, with friendly winds, currents, and seas, on this return trip, *things are about to get ugly.*

Our intended transit is either to sail to Cape Charles, at the southeastern portion of Chesapeake Bay, or to sail to Deltaville on the western shore of the Chesapeake, at the south side of the entrance to the Rappahannock River. The actual route depends on sea conditions, winds, and currents. The immediate task, however, is to avoid the U. S. Navy bombing range that is located in the middle of our intended course. It is also important to avoid an area where a series of underwater pilings are located – we do not want to encounter these pilings which can rip the bottom out of the boat. The charts don't give their depth, so a serious watch condition is set.

And of course, as Murphy's Law would have it (and Murphy is the devil of all bad things that can happen), we are sailing on a heading dead into the wind and dead into the current. Seas are washing over the bow as we dip into the waves. At this point, we realize that the 1,000 pounds or so of gear that enabled such a smooth ride to Tangier is now going to be our enemy. So, in a bouncing boat making 1 to 2 miles an hour at most, we have to redistribute several hundred pounds of equipment from the forward part of the boat down into the cockpit, in order to get a better center of gravity and to smooth out the ride. The center of gravity

shift keeps the water off the bow but the ride doesn't improve much.

We spend a few hours working our way westerly toward Deltaville since that is the heading that gives us the best speed – hardly more than 2 to 3 miles an hour at best. Uh-Oh....*Things go from bad to worse*

We are now in a 'grin and bear it' mode. Our forward progress is slow, but that's about the best we can do. As we look behind us, the skies are getting darker and darker and the temperature is beginning to drop. This is not at all a good sign. Bingo! We hurriedly turn on the radio and dial-up the weather channel and, sure enough, we have a large storm with lightning and severe wind gusts, reported to be at 60 MPH, coming more-or-less in our direction.

The first order of business in this worrisome condition is to haul down the sails. A gust of wind from that dangerous storm could turn the boat over. Next, we have to pull down all the antennas and disconnect all radios. We have a 35-foot mast that now is the tallest metal structure around.

We are still moving more slowly than we would like. The storm behind us turns slightly to the east, so the bulk of the nastiness misses us. But we are not yet out of danger, as two more storms suddenly pop up.

One large storm is coming out of the south from the Outer Banks in North Carolina, and another storm is coming across the southwestern part of Carolina heading north thru Suffolk and it is headed directly at us. Essentially, we are triangulat-

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*Our forward progress is slow, but that's about the best we can do. As we look behind us, the skies are getting darker and darker and the temperature is beginning to drop. This is not at all a good sign.*



ed dead center of the three storms. Being in the midst of these storms does not make us comfortable but the real concern is lightning. The boat is seaworthy, and with no sail up, there is no concern from a safety standpoint.

But we still are going slowly, and we decide that we are going to have to start heading west to get into shelter at Deltaville, a relatively safe anchorage, before the storms reach us. We are catching hard weather from the edges of these three storms and, not catching any luck at all, another storm pops up behind the third one. The weather term for this is a "line of thunderstorms" and it takes on entirely new meaning when you are in the line.

We are wet and tired, Deltaville is 3 miles to the west, and the sun is starting to go down. We are heading into a strong current coming into the bay from the river, and we need to stay in the channel where there is water deep enough for us to make port, or to anchor out, if necessary. Fortunately, there is still light enough for us to find the channel and to follow in another sailboat that had been in this marina before. This safe haven is the Dozier Yachting Center. We manage to come alongside a finger-dock and get a line over a piling just as the heavens opened up with another downpour, complete with 'sparkles.' Although soaked to the skin, we are at last secured to the dock and it is time for barbecue, macaroni, and a beer – a meal seemingly fit for royalty after our 9-hour ordeal, a 'difficult passage' from Tangier to Deltaville – all together a distance of but 21 Miles.

### Underway for the Last Leg to Norfolk

After a hard sail yesterday, we are looking forward to getting underway under better conditions today. It is Monday morning, and we are ready to sail after an excellent sea breakfast prepared by Terry (K14RXC, Team Member and Master of our sailing vessel, Do U Wunna). We depart the marina and sail due east for a couple of miles in order to clear the land mass at the mouth of the Rappahannock River. We want to have a clear run to our homeport at Little Creek and, for 5 hours, we have good sailing. There are dolphins swimming alongside and in front of the boat, and a cloudless, big blue sky, and although we were still going dead into the wind, we are making some progress. At times, we sail along at up to 4 to 5 mph.

We pass some large merchant ships and Terry calls one of them to ask for a radar update. They are very cooperative and give us a clear picture ahead with no storms apparent for a 45-mile radius. Things are very definitely looking up. But then, after a couple of hours, we are monitoring the weather channel and we are alerted to the possibility of a much-dreaded "line of thunderstorms with high winds." It's like déjà vu all over again. In this kind of weather, with unfriendly seas and winds, you cannot use the autopilot – you have to work the rudder by hand, and, under these conditions, that is not as easy as it may appear to a casual sailor. While Terry is a very accomplished helmsman, I (Quint, K4CQW), on the other hand, am not!

This series of storms is worse than the hard storms of yesterday: the boat is tossing around like a cork in a bathtub and the rain is coming as a torrential downpour. Our speed indicator is reflecting zero miles an hour and the navigation instrument's estimation of time to destination is "NEVER"; and that is not a helpful sign.

In good time, the storms pass, and we managed to cross the Hampton Roads Channel with a Navy Patrol boat giving us the 'big eye,' and we find our way to the Little Creek Channel. At this time we are once again in radio communications with our fellow Tangier team members who arrived home approximately 24 hours ago.

We arrive at the slip at 8 P.M. concluding an eventful second day sail of 12 hours. Being thoroughly drained, we decide to delay off-loading the boat until tomorrow, a decision applauded by the entire team.

### Epilogue

Terry has been sailing for 25 plus years under sail; not on Navy ships where I spent my years at sea. That is quite different from being under sail. I also own a power boat and I would not have taken it out under those weather conditions. My hat is off to Terry and his master seamanship skills.

Terry commented that he has run into lots of difficult situations while under sail; no wind, bad current, rough seas, a storm or two here and there, but nothing, he said, compared to what we experienced in our two days sailing from

### Tangier to Little Creek

We all made new friends on the Tangier expedition, we shared fun times and work effort in building our mini-antenna farm and activating our stations. We made friends on the island. And, of course, the trip up the Chesapeake Bay and the harrowing trip back, all under sail, was a very special adventure itself.

### Concluding Thoughts on Tangier Island

The people of Tangier Island, every one of them, could not have been more accommodating, more friendly, or more supportive of our efforts to make this expedition a success. It seemed that there is not a rude person in the entire Tangier population.

Special mention must be made of Drs. Susan and Dan Kaye, physicians who live on Tangier who commute to their mainland hospital duty via their private helicopter. The doctors were instrumental in helping us flesh out a brief history of Tangier, which is included on our QSL cards, the island history being the justification for our W4T Special Event callsign. Dr. Dan, who also functions as the island photographer, contributed many photos of our operation, both on the ground and from the air. •

# Random Recollections of an Old Ham

## The Appendixes

(continued from the Fall 2009 Issue of the QCWA Journal)

*A Journalistic History of The Life and Times in Amateur Radio of George Hart, W1NJM*  
by George Hart, W1NJM

The all-powerful Board of Directors usually consisted of hams of considerable intelligence, ability and experience, but sometimes one would show up who was completely disruptive. I'll not mention names, and try not to reveal identities in any other way, but stick to types. In some cases I could hardly believe that the membership had actually elected a certain type. Of course it was possible for a director to be elected without balloting. These officials were not paid, and it was not unusual for a candidate to be without opposition. But in my recollection most of the "foul balls" were elected by ballot and turned out to be extreme extroverts absolutely convinced that they had the solution to all the League's problems and that those who disagreed with them were idiots.

My first experience with such an individual occurred at a W1AW "open house" in May of 1940. One of the directors, a youngish man, struck up a conversation with me, asked a lot of questions about my background and wound up with "How much are they paying you?" When I told him (\$24 a week) he registered shock.

"Two college degrees, licensed ten years, a married man and you're only getting \$24 a week? What's the matter, won't they give you a raise?"

I told him I'd had one a little over a year ago, up from \$22 a week. He vowed he was going to get substantial raises for both Hal and me. 'I thought he was a great guy, although I was a bit nettled by his sharp questioning. We did get slight raises very shortly afterward, whether a result of his efforts or not I never knew. I found out later that he had asked similar questions of most of the underlings on the staff and had harangued K.B. Warner about the salary structure and many other aspects of League management. I'm sure he made no headway with KB, and when he arose at Board meetings and made many disruptive motions he was usually voted down or failed to get a second. He visited W1AW several times and tried to tell us how to run the station. Hal politely told him to see Mr. Handy, but he insisted we should be running the station, not Handy. I had recently written my master's thesis on the subject of Proletarian literature in the U.S., which had a strong communist flavor, and recognized some of the methods he used. He didn't last long as a director but while he was in office he stirred up a lot of controversy.

Then there was the newly-elected director who never showed up for his first Board Meeting but sent in an expense account for his travel and lodging. It turned out he had really been in

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***"While bad directors were an exception rather than a rule, some of the directors sent to the annual (later semi-annual) Board meetings were unbelievable. "***

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Hartford during the time of the meeting but had been confined to his hotel room with an extreme hangover. KB was loathe to honor his expense account, which was exorbitant, but finally did so when the director insisted that he had undergone the travel expense in good faith and was entitled to reimbursement. I was shocked, thought expenses should not have been paid, but of course said nothing.

While bad directors were an exception rather than a rule, some of the directors sent to the annual (later semi-annual) Board meetings were unbelievable. During the period following WWII there was much criticism of ARRL (meaning mostly the headquarters) for being a CW- dominated society, while a majority of amateurs preferred phone (voice) operation. This resulted in the formation of anti-ARRL membership societies and the presence on the Board of Directors of a significant minority who preferred phone. Of course all amateurs were required, then, to pass a code test of 13 WPM, but a great many, having done so to acquire their licenses (some by questionable procedures), completely abandoned CW operation and forgot the code. More about anti-ARRL pressure groups later.

I suppose for this to be an accurate historical document I should name names and specify origins, but I am loathe to create possible ill feelings or commit possible injustices, so I will forego real names and assign fictitious ones, or omit names altogether.

Even some of the more versatile directors, those who operated by both CW and phone, tended to feel that the headquarters staff should reflect more of the phone majority, which was the reason for the creation of the Board-mandated assistant communications manager for phone, the mandate including the stipulation that this employee must not be anyone already on

the staff. No need for a fictitious name here - that person was Lew McCoy, W1ICP, the only person ever to hold such a title at the headquarters. Lew, or Mac as he was sometimes called, took a desk facing mine in the crowded Communications Department, so we quickly became acquainted. Being a mostly-CW operator I was prepared to dislike him, but Lew had too many likeable qualities for this and instead we became friends. He later transferred to the Technical Department where he became a TVI expert and eventually the guru of the beginning amateur - and still later, to complete the record, a mainstay and one-time president of QCWA.

Lew was a protege and close friend of a director who was a prime critic of the alleged headquarters' leanings toward CW. This director (I'll call him Ray Goodman) was a fire-eating orator and tried to spellbind the Board with his diatribes. One director referred to him as a psychopathic case. Off the soapbox, however, Ray was a master of humor and well liked. His impact was great but his influence, in the end was little. Although during that period I was not required to attend Board meetings, I heard many stories of his antics and attempted manipulations.

Several of the directors and one of the presidents were heavy drinkers. I have no direct experiences along this line, but several stories from believable colleagues. I have already related the tale of the director who never showed up at his first Board meeting because he was waylaid by alcohol. He did show up for his second meeting but not entirely sober - and, as I recall, did not run for a second term. A drunken president and a director, both incoherent, were rescued off an elevator at the Hartford hotel where all the directors were staying and put into their beds by a couple of staff members who inadvertently came across them. These and other horror tales of drunken escapades among our policy-making Board members were whispered among the staff during that post-war period of controversy in the amateur ranks.

Ed Handy dreaded Board Meetings and the coming of directors to the headquarters. The two weeks before the director invasion were spent in frantic preparation in the CD to cope with related problems that might arise. It can be said that Ed was afraid of directors who opposed his policies and methods, but it cannot be said that he cowered and kowtowed to them as a result. On the contrary, he prepared his defenses well and presented them forcefully, but with such a display of

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*"I can recall several scenes in which a number of directors gathered in his little office on La Salle Road and later his much larger one in Newington and put the pressure on him, criticizing his handling of W1AW, the affiliated club program, DXCC, not necessarily in that order of frequency."*

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nervousness and apprehension that he was often regarded with contempt by his tormentors. I can recall several scenes in which a number of directors gathered in his little office on La Salle Road and later his much larger one in Newington and put the pressure on him, criticizing his handling of W1AW, the affiliated club program, DXCC, not necessarily in that order of frequency. His defense was like that of a cornered rat, and the pressure like that of a cat playing with a mouse. I felt sorry for him and wanted to help with his defense but had no power to do so, so sat idly by feeling a mixture of anger and shame as they stripped him of his vice-presidency, removed him from the Executive Committee and put him under the supervision of the general manager, who at that time was A. L. Budlong, who in my opinion was an able but the least effective general manager the League ever had. I wouldn't have given ten Budlongs for one Handy.

I never shared Handy's fear of directors, despite the knowledge that as a group they could make or break me. After Ed's retirement I was in a position much closer to both the Board and individual directors, and the pressures that had previously descended on Ed were now my problem. I had my share of director visits prior to the Board meetings, but Ellen had more. As the first woman executive, even though in a "junior" role, she was something of a novelty, but also very popular on her own right. She handled herself very well, combining femininity with executive ability skillfully for an impressive reaction.

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Bob White, on the other hand, was almost constantly under attack, which attacks usually visited me as his direct superior. DXCC has always been intensely popular and competitive, for reasons I have never really understood, I tried to be at least nominally active in all CD-administered activities, as had Ed Handy before me, and have experienced "pileups" as amateurs piled all over each other seeking contact with a rare "country," using all kinds of tricks, some of them clearly inimical, to snare the elusive station. It always struck me as one of those phenomena in which a certain pursuit becomes popular beyond any concept of its general usefulness or value. Nevertheless, I was obliged to accept it as one of the most popular communications managers under constant pressure, though the hardest and most frustrating. I was glad to retire at age 65, not to fade into obscurity but to seek or continue activities in which I was comfortable and without pressure.

### THE PRESIDENTS

I have met every president of the League except the first one, Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW. He became a "Silent Key" in 1936, over two years before I joined the staff to be an operator at the station dedicated to his memory. Having read his many "Rotten" articles in QST and his occasional editorials, I felt I knew him well, and when his obituary appeared I felt I had lost a friend, as countless amateurs all over the world did. HPM wrote all the "rotten" articles in QST and signed them "The Old Man" (T.O.M.). The identity of T.O.M. was not revealed until the obituary appeared, but I knew who he was and probably so did many of his many admirers.

The first League president I met face to face was Dr. Eugene C. Woodruff, W8CMP, who succeeded HPM and whom I had already met while a student at Penn State. "Doc" Woodruff was a Ph.D., not an M.D., and considered by many hardly a worthy successor to the founder, but HPM's was a hard act to follow. Following Doc was George W. Bailey, W1KH. Talk about contrasts! George was almost the opposite of the quiet, soft-spoken Doc Woodruff. He served as secretary of the Institute of Radio Engineers and in the Office of Scientific Research and Development during WWII. Next came Goodwin L. Dosland, W0TSN, a lawyer from Minnesota; Herbert Hoover, Jr., W6ZH, from California; Robert W. Denniston, W0DX, from Missouri; Harry Dannals, W2HD, from New Jersey; Victor C. Dark, W4KFC, from Virginia; Carl Smith, W0BWJ, from Colorado; Larry Price, W4RA, from Georgia; Rod Stafford, W6ROD, from California; Jim Heynie, W5JBP, from Texas.

At a club meeting at which I was invited to speak I undertook to "rate" the presidents. Of course this was largely a matter of opinion. Some of the presidents I knew very well, some were only acquaintances, some I hardly knew at all; but from a detached vantage point with a background of experience I rated (who else?) Hiram Percy Maxim as our best president, much as a historian would rate George Washington the best U.S. President. I never met him, but I knew much about him and he is the natural, obvious and inevitable choice. But who was the best of those I knew? A difficult choice. I think I would have to pick Vic Dark, W4KFC. Vic very early distinguished himself as the director from the Roanoke Division. He

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*"My choice for a close second would be Harry Dannals. I attended several Board meetings under his chairmanship and was impressed with his handling of some difficult situations."*

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was very active, a highly skilled CW operator, an effective and well-liked leader in all phases of amateur radio. My choice for a close second would be Harry Dannals. I attended several Board meetings under his chairmanship and was impressed with his handling of some difficult situations. The rest are hard to choose between, but I would put them in this order: Bob Denniston, Carl Smith, Larry Price, Goodwin L. Dosland, Eugene C. Woodruff, Herbert Hoover, Jr. I will omit Rod Stafford and Jim Heynie from this selection because I met both of them only once, and then very briefly. They both came after my retirement.

Among the directors my best friends were Harry Engwight, Gilbert L. Crossley (who was my mentor at Penn State), and "Doc" Gmelin from the Pacific Division. I was also quite friendly with many of the other directors during my 40 years on the staff. My worst enemies, although not personally, were Herbert Hoover, Jr. and Larry Price. Herb Hoover was never a director. He was sort of drafted into the presidency because he was the son of a U.S. President and apparently quite a brilliant electronics engineer; but I don't believe he ever really had a feel for ARRL and therefore, in my opinion, his term as president was insignificant. Larry Price was effective both as a director and as president and probably deserves a higher rating, but I thought some of his methods rather devious. •

*To be continued in a future issue.*

(continued from page 10)

By the way, I had turned 18 and immediately received my draft notice with instructions to report for a physical. I ended up taking three physicals before they finally gave up on me. My vision didn't meet their standards. It's interesting that I later spent 36 years working at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory on US Navy weapons systems. I'm sure they could have found something useful for me to do in the Service.

The War was over! And, it was only a few weeks after VJ Day, that the government reinstated SOME amateur operation. Those who had had station licenses before the War were given immediate access to the 2-1/2 meter band where WERS had been. I had acquired an Abbot DK-3 transceiver and used it under the WERS call WMDD-23. In those days, the term "transceiver" meant not only that there was a combination transmitter and receiver in one box, but that the same tube was used for both functions. The bias on the grid was switched to cause the tube to function as a self excited oscillator or as a superregenerative detector. As a matter of side interest, I had bought the DK-3 from F.E. Handy, W1BDI, who had been a well known ARRL official before the War but was serving as an Army officer at the War Department in downtown DC. His son, Ed, was in my BCC Victory Corps class. I heard later that Ed Handy did obtain his ham license.

I was not able to get on the air myself, with only an LSPH (Licensed Since Pearl Harbor) ticket - no station license. Since prewar hams were desperate to get back on the air, I was able to quickly sell the DK-3 for a good price.

I didn't have much time for hamming anyway. I was off to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY. Not long after arriving, I received my first station license with the call, W3KMY. When 10 meter operation was authorized, some of us put the RPI club station, W2SZ, back on the air. Later, we were active, when we had time, on 20 and 75 meters. We began a college net, with

Union College in Schenectady, Lehigh, West Point and Yale, along with others participating.

A year after passing my Class B exam, I was eligible to take the Class A. While home from RPI, I went down to the FCC office in Washington and passed the Class A and, at the same time, took the exam for the First Class Radiotelephone License.

Not content with operating only from the club station, I built my own rig consisting of a 6V6 crystal oscillator mounted on a 4 x 6 inch piece of wood. The thing ran about 6 Watts and I used it on 80 meter CW from my dorm room. There was an empty field out back with light towers at one end. So, my half wave dipole ran from one of the towers to the dorm building.

While at RPI, I helped start WRPI, a campus carrier current station. I even acted as a disk jockey one morning per week, going down the hill to the Troy Record Shop and borrowing a stack of records, then hauling them up the hill to play the next morning. Then, that afternoon, I would haul them back down again. How they were able to sell those records after all that playing and hauling by a bunch of RPI kids, I don't know. I also spent some time at WHAZ, RPI's 1 kW AM broadcast station on 1330. WHAZ shared time with two New York City stations and thus operated only six hours per week, from 6 PM until Midnight on Monday evenings. But, it gave me a place to hang my new First Class Radiotelephone license.

Still interested in the higher bands, I built a 6 meter transmitter with an 829 in the final and an 815 modulator. I even used this in the dorm for a while without much success.

While President of the RPI Radio Club, I asked Ed Tilton, W1HDQ, then VHF Editor of QST and author of the column devoted to the higher bands; to appear as a guest speaker. I had been reading Ed's columns which he had begun in 1939. They were one of the things which had heightened my interest in the higher frequency amateur bands. Having Ed Tilton as a guest speaker, began a long friendship which lasted until his death in the mid-1990s. Incidentally, I followed Wayne Green, W2NSD, as RPI Radio Club President. Wayne later became the publisher of 73 Magazine.

In 1950, the summer I graduated from Rensselaer, I operated from home on 6 meters. My folks were living in an apartment in Silver Spring by then. Television was coming along and a few neighbors had TV sets. My 4 element beam was on the roof, supported by a piece of 2-by-2 stuck down a vent pipe. Being on the first floor the 300 Ohm twin-lead ran down the side of the building and in the window. To rotate the antenna, I had to go up 2 flights of stairs, climb an iron ladder and lift a trap door to get out onto the roof.

**In those days, the term "transceiver" meant not only that there was a combination transmitter and receiver in one box, but that the same tube was used for both functions.**

It wasn't long before my folks received an eviction notice. It didn't cite TV interference, which I had plenty of. It only stated that we were operating an appliance not normal to the conduct of a household, or words to that effect. I brought the matter to the attention of ARRL and actually met with Paul Segal, their General Counsel at the time. The League was considering making mine a test case because of the "normal appliance" aspect. But my folks were completing a new home and I was about to take a job in Minneapolis. So we chose not to fight the eviction. My folks moved into the unfinished attic of their house and I headed for Minnesota. Of course, I took the 829 6 meter rig with me.

I accepted a job with Minneapolis Honeywell as a Production Expediter at their gyro plant. A Production Expediter is the lowest form of management and despised by everyone in positions above and below that level. I lasted less than a year.

While in the Twin Cities, I operated on 6 meters with my 829 rig from a rented third floor room with a wire dipole stretched across the ceiling. Through my operation, I met many good ham friends and managed to work 22 states during the summer of 1951.

Leaving Honeywell, I took a job with the University of Minnesota Radio station, KUOM, a 5 kW AM on 770 Kcs. Three days per week, I was in the studio and two days at the transmitter. It was another chance to use my First Class Phone license and I learned a lot about studio procedures and practices, including how to splice audio tapes. The station had two Ampex 300 machines, which were the nuts in those days. By the way, I saw one of those same machines, not one like it but the same machine, in a radio museum in Minneapolis in 1996, 45 years after I had worked at KUOM.

**The station had two Ampex 300 machines, which were the nuts in those days. By the way, I saw one of those same machines, not one like it but the same machine, in a radio museum in Minneapolis**

In the fall of 1951, I returned to Washington and obtained a job with the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory where I remained for 36 years rising to the level of Senior Staff Engineer. At APL, I worked on various Navy missile programs including Talos, Terrier, Tartar, Standard Missile and Tomahawk. For several years, I was Chairman of the Standard Missile Correlation Task Group, which maintained the interfaces between various parts of the missile itself and between it and its shipboard fire control system. Later, I became a Project Engineer for launch systems in the Tomahawk program with special emphasis on vertical launch from 688 Class attack submarines. Just before retiring in March 1988, I oversaw the generation of a specification to put GPS on Tomahawk.

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In Amateur Radio, I continued my 6 meter operation from my parents' home in Chevy Chase, Maryland. It was a very poor location with a hill to the northeast, the direction where most of the activity was. To help overcome this handicap, I decided I needed a bigger antenna. Most 6 meter operators in those days used 3 or 4 element beams. So, I built a 5 over 5 antenna and wrote it up for QST. The article appeared in the June, 1955 issue and was reprinted in Spanish in Rivista Tlegraphica Electronica de Argentina two years later.

In 1956, I moved to my own home in Rockville, Maryland and continued 6 meter operation, but with only one of the two 5 element beams. Now with several hundred Watts to a 4-250 modulated by a pair of 811s, I was able, for my first time, to participate in F2 propagation, working EI2W in Ireland CT3AE in the Madeira Islands, as well as a number of South American, West Coast and Alaskan stations. It was Solar Cycle 19, the biggest yet on record.

But, radio had to contend with another activity which entices young men. In the fall of 1958, I got married and later sold the Rockville house to move to an apartment in Silver Spring, in preparation for building our own home in Burtonsville, Maryland.

Once installed there, I became interested in HF contesting and joined the Potomac Valley Radio Club. PVRC is one of the foremost contest clubs in the world and I met a lot of interesting people and learned a great deal about operating. One of the great people I met was Vic Clark, W4KFC, who later became President of ARRL. Vic played a key role in my life later on.

While active in PVRC, I participated in Sweepstakes and DX contests, winning one Phone Sweepstakes for the Maryland/DC Section. The high spot of my HF contesting came in 1970, when I operated with W1FJJ (now W1FJ) as PJ9AF from Curacao in the Netherlands Antilles in the CQ Worldwide Phone DX Contest. Al and I came in first in the World in the Multi-operator/Single transmitter category with over 48,000 points. This amounted to over 4,800 contacts in the 48 hour contest period.

But the VHF bands were my first love and in 1968, then living in Silver Spring with a new wife (the one I'm currently still with after 41 years), I bought a used Swan-250 and got back on 6 meters for Cycle 20 which proved much inferior to Cycle 19. Nevertheless, I worked a lot on Sporadic E, including KH6. It's a good haul on Sporadic E from Maryland to Hawaii. Later, I acquired the Drake twins along with the receiving converters and transmit converters for 6 and 2. I also got on 220 and 432 and managed to work aurora on both of those higher bands as well as on 2 and 6.

But broadcasting had always been another of my interests, espe-

cially FM broadcasting. About 1959, a friend who I had met on 6 meters, Bob Carpenter, W3OTC, and I began talking about putting on a station. We studied the rules, looked for potential locations and began preparing an application. We were confident we could do all of the engineering work ourselves, which we did.

In those days, FM was only mono. The FCC was just beginning to study the various proposals for stereo broadcasting. When we received our Construction Permit they still hadn't come out with stereo rules. But we began to assemble materials to build the station. In my early days at APL, I had worked on weekends for WASH at its Wheaton, Maryland transmitter site and thus knew Everett Dillard, the station's owner. Mr. Dillard had, in the back room, a big grey box which he had received from Major Edwin H. Armstrong the inventor of superregeneration, the superheterodyne and FM. The box contained a 1 kW amplifier using a pair of 4-400s and a 3 kV power supply. It had been employed by WASH

**In those days, FM was only mono. The FCC was just beginning to study the various proposals for stereo broadcasting. When we received our Construction Permit they still hadn't come out with stereo rules.**

prior to Dillard acquiring a 5 kW RCA transmitter. Mr. Dillard had later replaced the exciter from the RCA transmitter with an REL Serrasoid modulator, which was considered the best available FM exciter at the time.

So, I negotiated with Mr. Dillard to buy the big grey box AND the RCA exciter. I think we paid about \$1,000. We had also bought seven sections of Rohn 25 tower. But the building owner where we had contracted to put the station, demanded that the tower be painted white. No red and white or grey for him. So, I got a couple of painting gloves and a can of white paint, propped each tower sections up on sawhorses in my backyard and proceeded to paint the tower. Then I hauled the sections, a few at a time, on the roof of my old second-hand Plymouth, from my home in Burtonsville to Bethesda where the station was to be located.

In June, 1961, FCC came out with their stereo rules. Bob and I

were well on our way to assembling equipment, but decided we had to hit the air with stereo. If we could be first in the Washington area with this new type of broadcasting, it should give us a leg up. And we needed more than a leg up. We were licensed for 1 kW at 200 feet above average terrain whereas all the other area FM stations were running 20 kW at 500 feet above average terrain.

But how to generate stereo. No stereo broadcasting equipment was yet available - no exciters or control room consoles. I had seen a magazine article showing how CHFI in Toronto had managed to produce stereo. The Canadians had begun this new form of broadcasting months before we did in the US. The article showed that CHFI had an RCA exciter like the one we had purchased from Mr. Dillard and that they had used this in conjunction with a piece of H.H. Scott test equipment that had been developed to test stereo receivers.

That was our answer. We bought a Scott 830 Stereo Generator. But the RCA exciter required low impedance to drive the reactance tube modulator, so it contained a transformer to do the impedance transformation. That would never do. To generate acceptable stereo, one must maintain phase with one or two degrees up to at least 150 kHz. A transformer couldn't do that. The article I saw, said that CHFI had employed a cathode follower to obtain the necessary low impedance, but it provided no details on its design.

Bob came through, designing a cathode follower. He also built a stereo console for the control room.

Since we had built our own transmitter, we were required to do extensive testing to show FCC that we met standards. Stations using commercial transmitters needed only to note the transmitter model on a form and they were home free. But not us. We had to do a lot of cobbling as well as borrowing of commercial test gear in order to perform what was known as "Proof of Performance". Some of my old friends from the Washington Radio Club came in handy when we needed to borrow expensive specialized test equipment to get the job done.

But we DID get it done, and on November 12, 1961 WHFS hit the air from a basement room in the Bethesda Medical Building. The Nation's Capital had its first stereo FM station.

Since news of the issuance of broadcast Construction Permits, appear regularly in Broadcasting Magazine, the trade publication for broadcasters, the granting of a CP to High Fidelity Broadcasters Inc. of Bethesda, Maryland was one of the items the magazine carried. This announcement was seen by a young soldier at nearby Fort Meade who was about to be released from the Army. Marlin Taylor had worked briefly in radio in eastern

Pennsylvania before going into the Service and was anxious to renew his broadcast career. So, he went to the address given for our company. Bob was surprised to see a young man in uniform show up at his front door, and Marlin was just as surprised to find that the headquarters for High Fidelity Broadcasters Inc. was a modest home on a Bethesda side street.

Bob and I hired Marlin to handle the day-to-day operation of the station, while I retained the official title of Station Manager and President of High Fidelity Broadcasters Inc. Bob was Chief Engineer and did most of the technical work.

Marlin Taylor left us before we sold WHFS to go to Philadelphia and then on to New York putting two stations on the maps of those two major markets. He is currently running several channels for XM Satellite Radio, including the 40s channel to which I listen frequently.

A young man I hired when Marlin left was Richard Mostow, W3YAV. Dick had some publishing experience, having put out the yearbook for the Washington area radio and TV performers union.

By the way, even though we had become broadcasters, both Bob and I were smart enough to keep our day jobs.

When we sold the station in 1963, I suggested to Dick Mostow that he start a monthly magazine listing the selections to be played on Washington/Baltimore FM stations which offer classical music and program their music in advance. WHFS had published its own program guide we called "Stereo Notes". Dick took me up on the idea, coming out with Forecast FM and asked me to author an equipment column. I began "Technically Speaking" with the first issue and submitted a monthly column for the next twelve years, until Dick sold the magazine. •

**Continued next issue!**

# Our Newest Members!

# Winter 2010

Date	Mem. #	Name	Call	City	ST/PR	SPONSOR	SCALL
7/1/2010	35204	DWYER, RICHARD GREGG	KA5BUD	COLUMBIA	SC	KEN FERGUSON	K4KXO
7/1/2010	35205	BOWEN, HUGH E	WC1T	FRAMINGHAM	MA	RAYMOND KAKUL	K1XVW
7/1/2010	35206	SWAN, ROBERT D	KC3W	CUMBERLAND	MD	-	-
7/1/2010	35207	JOHNSTON, CHARLES E, JR	W8JNE	GROVE CITY	OH	-	-
7/6/2010	35208	HASSELL, HENRY N	K4LMY	AMELIA	VA	VICTOR I CULVER	W4VIC
7/6/2010	35209	MILLER, CHERYL L	WS9P	RACINE	WI	DAN MILLER	KA9OIL
7/6/2010	35210	SKOLAUT, CHARLES B	KOBOG	NEWINGTON	CT	-	-
7/6/2010	35211	BEER, WOLFGANG	DL4HBB	GERMANY		EBERHARD KIERSCH	DK8EK
7/6/2010	35212	KURTH, KLAUS	DL9SAT	GERMANY		RUDI GENSEROWSKI	DL1SAK
7/9/2010	35213	EICHORN, JOHN F	KJ4ROF	HAMLET	NC	-	-
7/13/2010	35214	VOLZ, MARVIN T	W5MTV	CYPRESS	TX	-	-
7/16/2010	35215	MAXWELL, RAY	W7TAP	RENO	NV	LARRY OAKLEY	W7AB
7/16/2010	35216	RENALDI, DUANE, SR	KA1SFK	CHICOPEE	MA	-	-
7/21/2010	35217	MC GINTY, ART	KA5WII	GRANBURY	TX	-	-
7/23/2010	35218	LANDIS, STEVEN H	WA2WUU	BRUNSWICK	GA	-	-
7/26/2010	35219	LONG, WARREN G	WD4KHI	JACKSONVILLE	FL	-	-
7/26/2010	35220	BOWDEN, JEFFREY	N4DAK	ZELLWOOD	FL	AL LA PETER	W2AS
7/26/2010	35221	SKULINA, RICHARD JAMES	W9VSW	LYNCHBURG	VA	WILLIAM SVEC	WA4BKW
7/27/2010	35222	COE, THOMAS W	N7PTK	CROSSVILLE	TN	-	-
7/27/2010	35223	MANN-MOORE, SUSANNE	W0MAN	FOREST	VA	BILL PERKINS	KC4D
7/27/2010	35224	PONDER, STEPHEN H	N5WBI	HOUSTON	TX	-	-
7/27/2010	35225	HILL, MICHAEL	VA7MN	SQUAMISH	BC	-	-
7/27/2010	35226	CROSBY, JAMES E	K4JEC	CROZET	VA	HARRY J DANNALS	W2HD
7/27/2010	35227	GUMBUS, GERALD J	N4GKI	JUPITER	FL	LOUIS DEVILLON	K4ZRP
7/29/2010	35228	NAPIER, KENNETH	N4AI	SOMERSET	KY	-	-
7/30/2010	35229	HIGHTOWER, WILLIAM D	W6KFO	PALO ALTO	CA	JOHN CARTER	W3ELO
7/30/2010	35230	GARDNER, THOMAS N	KJ4OFK	SUNSET BEACH	NC	-	-
8/3/2010	35231	WEBB, MILT	WA4FNG	SUGAR HILL	GA	-	-
8/3/2010	35232	FUHS, DONALD R	KE0CQ	CLAREMORE	OK	SKIP AMIS	N5CFM
8/4/2010	35233	CLINTON, RON	WD5HUT	ENID	OK	VAL L ERWIN	W5PUT
8/5/2010	35234	WILSON, JAMES L	K4BAV	NORTH GARDEN	VA	HARRY DANNALS	W2HD
8/5/2010	35235	STEAD, CLARE HAROLD, SR	NA8Q	MONTROSE	MI	-	-
8/10/2010	35236	SMITH, CLAUDE E	N7BUD	MONMOUTH	OR	PETE WEBER	K7YTM
8/10/2010	35237	DE VERTER, HARRY F, JR	N3KYR	LANCASTER	PA	RAYMOND SHAUB	W3AXC
8/12/2010	35238	DRAPER, CHARLES W	AB4SK	SALEM	VA	KEN SIMPSON	W8EK
8/12/2010	35239	MALONE, RONALD A	WB4MRF	TRAVELERS REST	SC	KEN SIMPSON	W8EK
8/12/2010	35240	PRESTI, STEPHEN	W4SVP	BUENA VISTA	VA	KEN SIMPSON	W8EK
8/16/2010	35241	PLYMYER, RAY E	NV3K	WEST LAWN	PA	-	-
8/16/2010	35242	MERRILL, ROBERT L	K1MLR	GOFFSTOWN	NH	-	-



## Winter 2010 new members (continued)

Date	Mem. #	Name	Call	City	ST/PR	SPONSOR	SCALL
8/20/2010	35243	DALE, JOHN F	N0FYE	LINCOLN	NE	-	-
8/20/2010	35244	KENT, SUSAN M	KZ9L	MOUNT PROSPECT	IL	DONN S DENGEL	W9TOC
8/24/2010	35245	BONKOWSKI, JIM	W6LFB	DENTON	TX	VAL L ERWIN	W5PUT
8/27/2010	35246	BERRY, ROBERT W	W8BGE	FAIRLAWN	OH	-	-
8/30/2010	35247	SORTON, MICHAEL E	WS2E	MATAMORAS	PA	BOXBORO	
8/30/2010	35248	ALLSUP, GEOFF	W10H	WAQUOIT	MA	BOXBORO	
8/30/2010	35249	BREAULT, KEVIN	KA4VAS	MIAMI	FL	BOXBORO	
8/30/2010	35250	FINGER, ALAN	N1VPW	TOPSFIELD	MA	BOXBORO	
8/30/2010	35251	OGLESBY, JOHN	N9RE	HARVARD	MA	BOXBORO	
8/30/2010	35252	MC ININCH, BILL, JR	KA1MOM	BRIGHTON	MA	BOXBORO	
8/31/2010	35253	WESTCOTT, ROBERT	W1WSQ	BEDFORD	NH	BOXBORO	
8/31/2010	35254	CANTARA, PETER A	KI1M	PELHAM	NH	BOXBORO	
9/1/2010	35255	HAMILTON, ROGER H	WA2AEW	SYRACUSE	NY	J M ROUBIE	K2JDD
9/1/2010	35256	DUTKEWYCH, ALEXANDER	N2PIG	PULTENEY	NY	-	-
9/1/2010	35257	MILLER, JOSEPH T	W4UNM	MERIDIANVILLE	AL	GARY HARRISON	K0BC
9/1/2010	35258	PERKINS, WILLIAM, JR	KB4KFT	DULUTH	GA	-	-
9/1/2010	35259	FRANKLIN, EDGAR	W4KIB	MEMPHIS	TN	GARY HARRISON	K0BC
9/1/2010	35260	PERRY, MARK	K4EZS	NASHVILLE	TN	-	-
9/1/2010	35261	FRANKLIN, IRA	K4YMQ	PELL CITY	AL	-	-
9/1/2010	35262	SCHMITZ, JOHN N, JR	WB4JDN	TONEY	AL	-	-
9/1/2010	35263	HARTZOG, KENNETH DELTON	WA4JLQ	GADSDEN	AL	CAROLYN HARRISON	WB0OUM
9/2/2010	35264	RADICE, BILL	K2OWR	OAKDALE	TN	-	-
9/2/2010	35265	ARCHIBALD, ROY T	KA4HOT	MADISON	AL	-	-
9/2/2010	35266	WADE, CLIFF	KA4WPH	LYLES	TN	-	-
9/10/2010	35267	KIRSCHNER, FRANK D	KK4PR	LEESBURG	VA	-	-
9/14/2010	35268	DOWNEY, MELINDA B	K5QNF	JACKSON	MS	J H DOWNEY	K5QNE
9/14/2010	35269	SPINATO, JEROME A	KB5MRL	GREENWELL SPRINGS	LA	STEPHEN WALTER BENNETT	KJ6DDF
9/16/2010	35270	GATLING, LLOYD A	W4LG	SUFFOLK	VA	RICHARD HARRELL	W4RBH
9/17/2010	35271	FARIA, KENNETH, SR	NT0Y	ORLANDO	FL	-	-
9/27/2010	35272	ROBERSON, PATRICK E	N7PAT	ALOHA	OR	EVERETT W CURRY	W6ABM
9/30/2010	35273	PALMROSE, DAVID D	NY7C	ALOHA	OR	-	-

# Novice History

# 1960

Article 12 in a Series for the QCWA Journal

**Novice Historical Society, [www.Novicehistory.org](http://www.Novicehistory.org)**

Cliff Cheng, Ph.D., AC6C, formerly WN6JPA (1975)

*Headnote – Many hobbies like amateur radio do not have a well documented "history." This "history" was compiled from many sources (see endnote); some of them are contradictory. This history is incomplete and should be regarded as a work in progress. There is an absence of YL, minorities, disabled hams and hams from the U.S. territories in this history for they are historically under-represented in ham radio.*

This is our twelfth article in a series of articles on the history of the Novice license. The first article appeared in the Spring 2008 issue of the QCWA Journal and looked at structure of the Novice license when it was introduced in 1951. In issue two, Summer 2008, we looked at 1951, the earliest Novices. Article three told about the early-1950s. The mid-1950s, were covered in the fourth issue. In the fifth installment we looked at the late-1950s. The sixth article considered what it would take to become the first Novice to earn the DXCC award. The next article we told the story of how Bill Tippet, W4ZV, formerly KN4RID, became the first Novice to attain DXCC. Then in two articles we looked at early early-Novice call signs. The last article dealt with school based amateur radio programs during the Novice era, specifically how Jack Brown, W6EQH (SK) used ham radio in his 33 year electric shop teaching career. In this article we will begin our look at the second decade of the Novice Era, 1960.

Starting with this article the newly available resource of QSTs being available on-line will be used. The new resource means more detailed articles which cover a shorter amount of time.

The second decade of the Novice Era in QST started off with an overblown controversy played out in the Letters to the Editor. In January of 1960 Peter V. Guidi, WA2BMB, of Croton Falls, NY wrote a letter to the Editor of QST in which he opined that the Novice sub-bands were crowded giving rise to QRM. He proposed the alleged QRM be eliminated by eliminating the Novice license. He said newcomers should be reduced by 95%. While there were letters of support for Peter's position, he recanted in May 1960 QST after being heavily criticized. After he changed his mind, he said leave the Novice license alone but make the General 3 years non-renewable and the Extra 5 years renewable upon retesting (pp. 92). We are disappointed the Editor of QST kept this controversy going given that there was no proof a problem existed in the first place, no relationship between the alleged problem and proposed solution and no exploration of alternative solutions. We attempted to find Peter for an interview but he is no longer a ham. He was last listed in the 1970 Callbook. We shall not devote any more space in this column to this foolish controversy but will instead eventually address it in-detail in our early-1960s web update on our website [www.Novicehistory.org](http://www.Novicehistory.org). In perspective the proposal to reduce newcomers by 95% and eliminate the main source of youngsters entering ham radio is nonsensical. Any reader wishing to read more about this controversy is invited to

check back on our website when we publish an update for the early-1960s.

It was not necessary for the FCC to issue WV Novice prefixes outside the second and sixth call districts for the other call districts still had a stock of KN prefixes for Novices in the early-1960s. In 1960 then 12 year old, Rich Roznoy, K1OF, was issued KN1QKQ in Westport, CT. South of Rich in 1960, was Art Mouton, K5FNQ, in Lafayette, Louisiana. Art was KN5FNQ in those days. His first Novice station consisted of a Johnson Challenger transmitter and Hallicrafters S-107 receiver. He later upgraded his Novice station to a Hallicrafters HT-37 transmitter and Hammarlund HQ-145 receiver. For antennas, Art used dipoles on 15/40M and 80M. Art worked 49 states as a Novice and won his state in the Novice Roundup contest. More on Art in our 1961 article. (See Rick and Art's Novice stories on our website, [www.novicehistory.org](http://www.novicehistory.org)).

In 1960 Don Bender was licensed as a Novice, KN3MMB. We met his brother Dick Bender, W3SYY (WN3SYY as a Novice), in our 1956 history. Don got married shortly after he got his Novice so he was not very active. He did upgrade to Technician, K3MMB (SK).

In 1960, budding electrical engineer Bob Silverman, WV6MRK, upgraded his Novice to General, WA6MRK, before he entered high school (see Bob's Novice story on our website, [www.novicehistory.org](http://www.novicehistory.org)). Bob went on to Hamilton High School (Hami) in Los Angeles where he met Barry Fluster, WV6MZI, in 1960. Barry later upgraded to WA6MZI in 1960. Another classmate of theirs was Mark Gershen, KF6YAN, who was WV6MUY in 1960. We discussed Hami and its teacher Jack Brown, W6EQH, (SK) in our last article.

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*By the early-1960s another controversy arose in ham radio. While the Novice was the recognized entry level license in the FCC licensing plan, Novices were supposed to upgrade to General. Upgrading Technician was not what the FCC intended.*

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1960 was also the first full year of Lou "Mac" McCoy, W1ICP's "Beginner and Novice" column in QST. Mac's column would become useful to not just Novices but most new hams. His column was not in each issue of the magazine. He often did have other articles and product reviews that were not labeled "Beginner and Novice." In 1960 his column included:

- January: "How to Get Rid of the Other Fellow's Key Clicks" (pp. 44).
- February: "Choosing a Transmission Line – Part II" (pp. 40).
- March: "A Poor Man's Q-Multiplier" (pp. 46).
- November "50- and 144-M.c. Reception at a Low Cost" (pp. 39).
- December: "A Simple Antenna System for the Novice" (pp. 46).

Although his August article, "All-Band CW Transmitter for the Novice" (pp. 32) was not labeled Beginner and Novice in the archives, it nevertheless is relevant to Novice history.

In February 1960, the annual ARRL Novice Roundup contest occurred. The winner was KN5ZMU, who earned 20,679 points (QST, Aug. 1960, pp. 50). Fifteen Novices earned more than 10,000 points. The second place winner was KN8SXV, who earned 18,360. There were representatives from each of the 10 call districts and Hawaii, except the seventh, in the top 15. The fifth call district had the most, three each. The first and fourth each had two winners each. The top-scoring Novice from the seventh call district was KN7JCA, who earned 5,929. KN7JCA would have needed another 4,559 to tie with the lowest scorer, WH6DMU. Space does not permit us to report more about Novice Roundup. However, we will at a later date after we are done with our early-1960s articles, post to our website an update for 1960 that will have more Novice Roundup information, [www.Novicehistory.org](http://www.Novicehistory.org).

QST ran the picture of Lihue, Hawaii Novice Mary Allport, WH6DBA, who was a contestant in the Hawaii Science Fair (QST, Feb. 1960, pp. 19). Mary made a CW transmitter for \$5 and mounted it on a cake pan (QST, Feb. 1960, pp. 19). Other components cost \$7.50 (QST, Feb. 1960, pp. 19). While she did not win, the fact she is a girl gained her a lot of media attention (QST, Feb. 1960, pp. 19). Mary is not listed in the current FCC database.

February 1960 QST reported that KN3KAU (no name reported) answered three CQs in a row from three hams from Winona, MO (pp. 19). Those three hams were the father Jack Lloyd, KN0WNU, the son, William Lloyd, KN0VMZ, and the mother, Edith Lloyd, KN0WNT (pp. 19). (Note – KN3KAU was not found in the 1960 Callbooks). We attempted to reach William Lloyd, now K0VMZ, for an interview and did not receive a reply. Jack and Edith are not in the current FCC database.

KN3KHN wrote the Editor of QST asking for help with an unusual interference problem (Feb., 1960, pp. 29). It seems each time s/he played his/her electronic organ s/he heard a non-local SSB station s/he could not identify. In an attempt to learn the disposition of this unusual inference problem, we asked Callsign Historian Steve Melachinos, W3HF to look up KN3KHN. Not only could Steve not find KN3KHN listed, but believes by the time the Stray item came out in QST, KN3KHN had upgraded and was Almon T. Sorrell of Pikesville, MD. Almon is not in the current FCC database. Keep in mind that QST runs Strays item as fillers. It often

takes more than the ordinary 3 month lead time for a Strays item to make it into QST.

Joel Thurtell, KN8PSV, later K8PSV of Lowell, MI, published an item in QST's Hints & Kinks in (Feb., pp. 50). Joel used a buzzer for code practice (QST, Feb. 1960, pp. 50). After a month, the buzzer made an unsteady and annoying tone (QST, Feb. 1960, pp. 22). To stabilize the vibrating armature, Joel recommended a small piece of sponge or felt (QST, Feb. 1960, pp. 22). We emailed Joel, who is now K8PSV, at the email address he listed on QRZ.com and got a bounce back.

February 1960 QST reprinted hints for Novices from the Etna Radio Club Oscillator newsletter (Feb. 1960, pp. 82). QST did not tell us where this club is located; but Bob Berg, KO7S, found for us that this club is in Pittsburgh, PA and is now called the North Hills Amateur Radio Club, W3EXW, [www.nharc.org](http://www.nharc.org). Here is a summary of Etna's hints:

- Do not send faster than you can receive.
- Listen before you transmit.
- Avoid making long CQs. Once a station answers you, it is unnecessary to repeat your call several times.
- Become proficient with a bug off-the-air, before you get on-the-air with it.
- Use established abbreviations, not your own
- Omit foolish signing
- If a station is CQ for a particular location and you are not in that location, do not reply.
- Do not send "R" (roger) and then ask for a repeat.
- Novices are not permitted to use VFOs.
- Do not give a signal report until you see how their signal holds up.
- Make sure you use the correct crystal.
- Before getting on-the-air, have a local ham listen on a general coverage receiver for harmonics.

We attempted to contact NHARC to find the author of this article but did not get a reply.

In February 1960, ARRL announced the availability of code proficiency certificates which local ham clubs could issue to Novices and others (QST, Feb. 1960, pp. 82). ARRL was careful to emphasize these would be the club's certificate, not the ARRL's certification code proficiency certificates clubs could issue to Novices and others (QST, Feb. 1960, pp. 82).

April 1960 QST had a "It Seems to Us" Editorial which addressed the problem of cheating on mail order ham exams (pp. 9). QST recommended that Novice code exams avoid sentences in which test takers can fill-in missing letters (QST, Apr. 1960, pp. 9).

QST in May 1960 (pp. 89) ran a picture of the Shanks family from Richland, WA. The Shanks all got their Novice license at the same time and were issued a block of five Novice call signs, KN7KSE, William Shank, later upgraded to K7KSE  
KN7KSF, Phyllis Shank, later upgraded to K7KSF  
KN7KSG, Alice Shank,  
KN7KSH, Ronald Shank,  
KN7KSI, Andrew Shank,  
Neither William nor Phyllis are in the current FCC database. The other Shanks apparently did not upgrade before expiration.

(continued on page 51)



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Albert Haig, K2OWJ, of New Hyde Park, NY reported to QST that it is possible for Novices to work DX (QST, May, 1960, pp. 89). Albert said Ernest Rockwood, WV2FNP also of New Hyde Park, later WA2FNP worked VK3XB in Australia on 40M in August 1959 under trying conditions (pp. 89). Ernest had a Hallicrafters S38-E receiver with a 10ft. Wire antenna and a Heath DX-20 transmitter with a 40M dipole (pp. 89). Neither of them are in the current FCC database.

The FCC took at least three enforcement actions against Novices in 1960:

- Earl W. Crane, Jr., KN0UMD, Minneapolis, MN - Earl's Novice license was suspended for the remainder of the term of his license (QST, June 1960, pp. 90-91). The FCC stated Earl operated A-3 on the 10M meter using K0MUD on numerous occasions between November 1959 to February 1960. He was also charged with failure to keep a proper logbook.
- Charles E. Jefferies, KN9SMV, Goshen, – Charles' Novice license was suspended in an identical case only Charles allegedly operated on 80M SSB using K8SMV (QST, June 1960, pp. 90-91).
- Robert R. Hosuel, WV6HMS of Pico Rivera, CA – On April 20, 1960, Robert's Novice license was suspended for transmitting a call sign he was not authorized to use on February, 20, 1960 (QST, Dec. 1960, pp. 103).

Keep in mind these are the enforcement actions against Novices we know about from QST archives. There might have been other actions we were unable to find.

In Sun Prairie, WI, near Madison, 14 year old Glenn Rattmann, K6NA, got his Novice license KN9ZMS. Sun Prairie is near Truax Field Air Force Base in Madison, WI. In 1959 an engineer named Bill Nash, K9YJD, now W0OWY, moved to Sun Prairie so he could work on the base. Bill started the Sun Prairie Amateur Radio Klub (SPARK). SPARK was quickly a successful club growing to 40 members. SPARK had a station in the public library's basement.

KN0VCK worked James Strong of East Detroit, MI, KN8RQW and asked him to pass a message to his relatives (QST, Nov. 1960, pp. 61). KN8RQW came back and said those are his relatives too. As it turned out both are cousins and they met for the first time on the air. (A Callbook search did not find KN0VCK listed in 1960). We did find a James Strong in the FCC database and could not contact him for an interview; but are also unsure if he was KN8RQW in 1960.

KN7MEG wrote that Novices should spend 35 cents to buy a Dictionary of Electronic terms (QST, Nov. 1960, pp. 61).

By the early-1960s another controversy arose in ham radio. While the Novice was the recognized entry-level license in the FCC licensing plan, Novices were supposed to upgrade to General. Upgrading Technician was not what the FCC intended. The FCC stated the Technician license was supposed to be an experimental license for VHF and UHF. There were hams who did not follow this schema, especially if their Elmer was a Technician class operator. Many of them were unable/unwilling to pass the 13wpm code test required to become a General. They sought to carve out their own niche in ham radio above 50mc. Many of these hams started out as CBers. Recall CB was formed by taking away part of the 27M.c. ham band in September of 1958. CBers were

limited to 23 channels, AM phone, and 5 watts. Some CBers who were dissatisfied with their limitations on CB got a ham Technician license. The ex-CBers attempted to widen their base.

It should be noted a (classical) Technician in this era had little resemblance to the same named license, "Technician" who were licensed after 1991. A classical Technician had to pass 5wpm Morse code and take the same written examination as a General. There were no code-free licenses. Morse code had to be copied perfectly for at least 1 minute out of 5 minutes. Question pools were not published. There was a failure rate of 69%; not today's almost everyone passes.

The Technician license controversy was not just at the policy level, in places, it bled over to the everyday ham level too. We have heard stories, that at different clubs across the country, factions developed between U-VHFers and other hams. Most clubs were general interest clubs which took an inclusive approach to ham radio. All licensed hams and anyone interested in ham radio was welcomed. U-VHFers either broke away to form their own specialty clubs or tried to take over general interest clubs and convert them to an agenda to fit their interests. Later V-UHF clubs would turn into repeater clubs.

In the next article in this Series, we shall move on to 1961. •

**References** – See the disclaimer in the headnote. Most of the history in this series is based on stories told by Novices of the era on the website of the Novice Historical Society, [www.novicehistory.org](http://www.novicehistory.org). Steve Melachrinis, W3HF's callsign history research has been invaluable in documenting historical facts that have shaped this series. The background information in this series comes from several sources. One of the main background sources is Bill Continelli, W2XOY's "The Wayback Machine" <http://ham-shack.com/history.html> amateur radio history series. Rodney Dinkins, AC6V's (sk) outline was helpful, [www.ac6v.com/](http://www.ac6v.com/). Ron Thomas, W8QYR wrote an insightful piece on ham radio in the 1950s in October 1995 issue of QST and a similar piece in 2006. In May 1994 issue of QST, Phil Sager, WB4EDT and Rick Palm, K1CE wrote a history of ham radio licensing which was a helpful reference for this history. In the back of his licensing manuals, Gordon West, WB6NOA provided specific details about the history of licensing requirements.

Cliff Cheng, Ph.D., AC6C, has been a happy ham since 1975 when he earned his novice license, WN6JPA, at John Burroughs Jr. High School in Los Angeles. Cliff's teacher, Ted Ryan, WB6JXY (sk), was a ham radio teacher for 35 years and grew a large and rich ham radio culture at school by teaching 6 novice classes a year, plus another 6 Novice classes for the San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club, W6SD. Ted's memorial site also contains Novice history, [www.TedRyan.bappy.com](http://www.TedRyan.bappy.com). Cliff started the Novice Historical Society so hams could share their Novice stories and pictures, [www.novicehistory.org](http://www.novicehistory.org). Cliff also has a webpage to honor Lenore Jensen, W6NAZ (SK) who historically was one of ham radio's most significant YLs, [www.K16CM.bappy.com](http://www.K16CM.bappy.com). Cliff is a QCWA (33455) and ARRL life member. July 2008 QST, (pp. 65) named Cliff to the top of the Public Service Honor Roll, under his old callsign WW6CC. He can be reached at: AC6C - at- ARRL - dot- net if you care to share your Novice story and pictures

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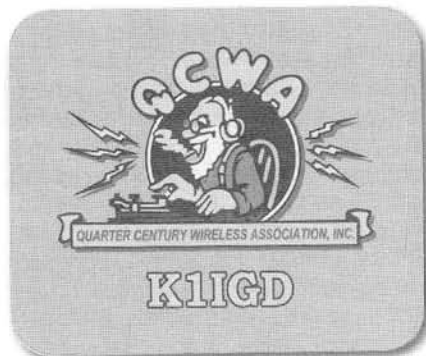
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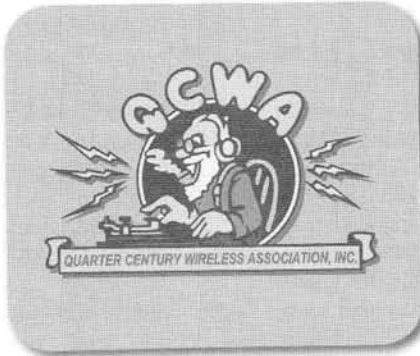
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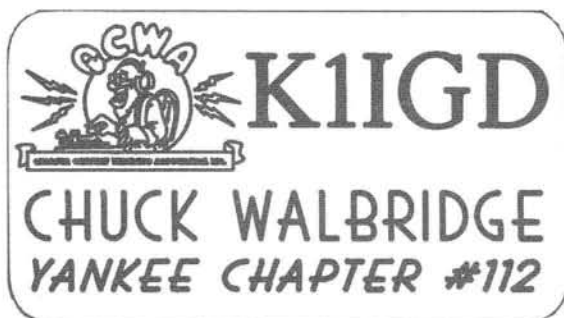
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33 GUNDERSON-PENN-JRSEY	DAILY	1000L	W3APE	14263	173 GOLDEN TRI Chapter	TUE	1930L	W9JRY	145.39 -
35 MIDCONTINENT Chapter	THU	2030L	K0YML	146.97 -				ECHOLINK node 360259 K4FC-L	
37 HARRISBURG Chapter	WED	2100L	K3IUY	147.12 +	181 HUDSON VALLEY	SUN	0815L	W2NBT	3917
38 SAN ANTONIO Chapter	SUN	2030L	WA5KRP	147.380+	181 HUDSON VALLEY NY	TUE	2030L	VARIES	147.060 +
41 DALLAS Chapter	SUN	0715L	VARIES	3835	182 NORTHEAST TN	SUN	2100L	W4CZ	145.110 -
45 CITRUS Chapter	TUE	1930L	VARIES	147.195 +	183 PIONEER Chapter	SUN	0930L	VARIES	3923
46 FOUNDER'S Chapter	SUN	0815L	W2NBT	3917	191 MONTEREY BAY Chapter	TUES	1930L	VARIES	146.70 +
49 PEACH STATE Chapter	SAT	0900E	K4VN	3857.5				pl 94.8	
49 PEACH STATE Chapter	WED	2000L	K4VN	145.41 -	194 HAWAII Chapter	1st S	1500L	KH6B	7088
51 TEX-LA GOLDEN TRI	MON	1830L	W5AL	146.85	196 EDISON Chapter	DAILY	0730L	VARIES	147.345 +
55 WI Chapter	SUN	0830L	WA9UVK	3985	198 MID SIERRA Chapter	SAT	0700L	VARIES	3908
58 CO Chapter	SUN	0900L	W9KRE	3910	205 EASTERN IN Chapter	MON	2000L	VARIES	147.045+
58 CO Chapter	SUN	0930L	VARIES	146.67-				pl 131.8	
62 SUWANNEE Chapter	SAT	0900L	N6SL	3940	210 OMAHA Chapter	TUES	1900L	W0OMA	147.36 +
63 CENTRAL OK Chapter	SUN	0730L	W5AS	3845 kcs	211 NEOSHO VALLEY Chapter	SAT	0900C	VARIES	3907
63 CENTRAL OK Chapter	THUR	1900L	W5HXL	147.105 +		EXCEPT 4TH SAT			
64 EL PASO Chapter	SAT	0830L	W5RO	3933	212 MID-OHIO	2nd THU	1930L	VARIES	146.760 -
65 NIAGARA FRONTIER	SUN	1330L	W2QI	3900				pl 123.0	
67 AUSTIN Chapter	SAT	0900L	W5MDL	3920	213 FRESNO CA	4TH MON	1930L	VARIES	146.850-
70 NATIONAL CAPITAL	MON	1930L	VE3QCW	147.030-				pl 141.3	
76 BLUE RIDGE Chapter	SAT	0845L	K4HU	3.625 Mhz	213 FRESNO CA	4th MON	1930L	WQ6CWA	443.250 +
81 LONG ISLAND QCWA Chapter	FRI	2030L	W2TLC	146.745 -				pl 107.2	
81 LONG ISLAND Chapter	SUN	1130L	W2TLC	3917	219 NEW-UP Chapter	2nd SAT	1600C	W8DXX	3838.
85 ARK-LA-TEX	CST MON	1930L	WA9PZL	146.670 -					
85 ARK-LA-TEX	CDT MON	2000L	WA9PZL	146.670 -					



# QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 3247, Framingham, MA 01705-3247

508-405-1930

Fax: 508-405-1965



This form for use by all U.S. Applicants  
for membership in QCWA.

**Fees Effective 4/1/2007**

For Official Use Only

Membership No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

First Licensed Year \_\_\_\_\_

Deposit Record \_\_\_\_\_

New Application? \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal? \_\_\_\_\_

Original QCWA No. \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ Present Call  
(Print Name Clearly)

having been licensed as an amateur for 25 years or more and presently holding the call listed above,  
(it is not necessary to have been licensed the entire 25 years) hereby apply for membership in QCWA.  
I understand that proof of the original date of licensing is required. My complete mailing address is :

Street Number and Name \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

I will keep QCWA Headquarters advised of changes in my address and/or call sign. My first Amateur  
license was dated \_\_\_\_\_ and the Call was \_\_\_\_\_ Other Calls held \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to become affiliated with QCWA Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## SCHEDULE OF MEMBERSHIP FEES

Select one of the following plans:

Member

Family Member

(ea. additional)

QCWA Dues for a ONE-year period \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

QCWA Dues for a TWO-year period \$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_

QCWA Dues for a THREE-year period \$55.00 \$12.00 \_\_\_\_\_

QCWA LIFE Membership \$375.00 \$90.00 \_\_\_\_\_

When paid in 3 equal installments \$390.00 \$105.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
within a one-year period (3 pay of \$130.00) (3 pay of \$35.00)

**INITIAL REGISTRATION FEE, ALL NEW MEMBERS .....\$5.00**

Gold membership pins available with your call engraved (no year tag) Check fastener:

Tie-tac \_\_\_\_\_ Screw button \_\_\_\_\_ Safety pin \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 each \_\_\_\_\_

Year-tag pins (**tie-tac only**): 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75 or 80 \$20.00 each \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed by \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

07/06

# Member Supplies

## CERTIFICATES

*Membership Certificates are numbered in serial order and are issued to each member. Numbers are not reissued except to the same member to whom they were first issued. There is no charge for these certificates.*

- **QCWA Gold Certificates** celebrate the 50th anniversary of licensing. Issued without charge to eligible members upon proof of year of first license.
- **Gold Certificates** are issued in five-year increments; 55, 60, 65, and 70-year certificates free of charge to eligible members. Special awards are issued for 75 years and higher.
- **Fifty-Year Continuous Licensing Gold Certificate** available to eligible members. Requires submission of proof of continuous licensing. Applications are available from QCWA Headquarters.
- **QCWA Century Club Certificate** is issued to QCWA members whose age, when added to their number of years as a QCWA member totals 100 or more.
- **Meritorious Award Certificate** is issued by Headquarters upon request of any active QCWA chapter. One such award is authorized for each chapter each year. The award may be given to recognize unusual dedication to QCWA or amateur radio.

## OPERATING AWARDS

*The Activities Manager issues QCWA Operating Award Certificates to QCWA members. Proof of eligibility is required.*

- **QCWA Worked 50 States Awards** are issued to QCWA members who have contacted members in each state of the union.
- **QCWA Worked 100 Members Awards** are issued to QCWA members who have contacted at least 100 QCWA members.
- **QCWA Worked 60 Chapters Awards** are issued to QCWA members who have contacted members of 60 chapters.
- **QCWA Worked 500 Members Awards** are issued to QCWA members who have contacted 500 QCWA members.

## OTHER MEMBER SUPPLIES

- Lapel Pins without year tags. Tie tack, safety pin or screw type pins (no year) - \$15.00
- Lapel Pins with year tags (tie tack only). Specify year: 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75 or 80 - \$20.00
- QCWA Life Member pin: \$10.00
- QCWA Embroidered emblem: \$5.00
- 450 QCWA Red Stamps (regular): \$5.00
- 450 QCWA Gold Stamps (life): \$5.00
- 400 QCWA Yellow Stamps (50 Year): \$5.00
- QCWA Cap with logo: \$15.00
- QCWA Chapter Banner: Please contact headquarters for current pricing.
- QCWA Decals: \$1.00 (there is an "inside the window" version and an "outside the window" version. Please specify)
- QCWA QSL Cards — (see ad elsewhere)
- QCWA Member Badges — (see ad elsewhere)
- QCWA Golf Shirts — (see ad elsewhere)

Please send your order to: QCWA Headquarters, P.O. Box 3247, Framingham, MA 01705-3247  
Phone (charge orders only): (508) 405-1930, FAX: (508) 405-1965. We accept orders charged to credit cards. **Mastercard and VISA ONLY!!** Prices effective as of 3/1/2010.



# Get back to the shack with Icom HF!



## IC-7800 HF + 6M

200 Watt Output (50W AM),  
Built-in Power Supply  
RX: 0.030–60.000MHz\*  
Four 32 Bit IF-DSPs + 24 Bit  
AD/DA Converters  
2 Completely Independent Receivers  
+40dBm 3rd Order Intercept Point  
3 Roofing Filters  
Selectable, "Build Your Own"  
IF Filter Shapes



## IC-7700 HF + 6M

200 Watt Output (50W AM),  
Built-in Power Supply  
RX: 0.030–60.000MHz\*  
Two 32 Bit IF-DSPs + 24 Bit  
AD/DA Converters  
Single Receive  
+40dBm 3rd Order Intercept Point  
3 Roofing Filters  
Selectable, "Build Your Own"  
IF Filter Shapes



## IC-7600 HF + 6M

100 Watt Output (30W AM)  
RX: 0.030–60.000MHz\*  
USB Port for CI-V Format  
PC Control and Audio In/Out  
Dual Receive  
+30 dBm 3rd Order Intercept Point  
3 Roofing Filters  
Selectable, "Build Your Own"  
IF Filter Shapes

## For the love of ham radio.

\*Frequency coverage may vary. Refer to owner's manual for exact specifications.  
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